THE
BRITISH Remembrancer:

Containing, a New

HISTORY of ENGLAND,

Eccleſiaſtical and Civil,

FROM

The Happy State of the Primitive BRITONS to the Preſent Time;

With the

CHARACTER of each MONARCH,

FROM

WILLIAM the Conqueror to his preſent Majeſty King GEORGE II. incluſive.

By Mother BUNCH.

ILLUSTRATED with the Heads of all the KINGS and QUEENS from the Conqueſt.

Wiſe Princes are the Glaſs, the School, the Book,
Wherein their Subjects Eyes learn, read, and look.
SHAKESPEAR.

LONDON:

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M.DCC.LVI.

THE INTRODUCTION.

AS no *Briton*, how curious and inquiſitive ſoever, can be too well acquainted with the *Laws* and *Conſtitution* of his Country; and as our BRITISH YOUTH ought never to be indulged in reading the Hiſtory of any *Foreign* Nation, before they have entertained ſome competent Idea of their own, it is humbly hoped, that the following COMPENDIUM may render the Study of it rather an *Amuſement* than a *Taſk*, and be a Kind of GUIDE, at leaſt, to their future Peruſal of more elaborate Compoſitions of the like Nature, with Underſtanding, Pleaſure, and Profit.

A

SHORT VIEW

Of the Preſent State of

SOUTH-BRITAIN.

Its Situation.

SOUTH BRITAIN, then, that is, (properly ſpeaking, *England* and *Wales*, is ſituate in the *Atlantic* Ocean, between two Degrees Eaſt, and ſix Degrees odd Minutes Weſtern Longitude, and between 49 Degrees, 55 Minutes, and 55 Degrees, 55 Minutes North Latitude; and being of a triangular Figure, is bounded by *Scotland* on the North; the *German* Sea, which ſeparates it from *Germany* and the *Netherlands*, on the Eaſt; by the *Engliſh* Channel, which divides it from *France*, on the South; and by St. *George*'s Channel, which ſeparates it from *Ireland* on the Weſt. It is exactly 360 geographical Miles in Length, from North to South, and 300 in Breadth, from Eaſt to Weſt, in the South, but ſcarce 100 broad in the North.

Its Air

Is much warmer here than in the *Netherlands* and *Germany*, tho' under the ſame Parallel;

rallel; and, unleſs in the Fens and marſhy Grounds, it is for the moſt Part very healthful.

There are very few Mountains; the higheſt Hills, however, are in *Wales*, and in the Weſt and North of *England*. The Reſt of the Country conſiſts of moderate Hills and Valleys, Wood-Lands, Paſture and Meadow-Grounds; extenſive Corn-fields, and Plains, which feed numberleſs Flocks of Sheep, Horſes, and other Cattle. Though the largeſt Oxen, Horſes, and Sheep are to be met with in *Lincolnſhire* and *Leiceſterſhire*; yet the fineſt Breed of Horſes for running and hunting are produced in *Yorkſhire*. And beſides, there are a great Number of Royal Foreſts, Chaces, and Parks, which afford Plenty of Deer and other Game.

Its Soil

Is either Clay, Gravel, or Sand; the Clays produce excellent Wheat and Beans; the Gravel and Sand, Rye, Barley, Peas, and Oats; and of late Years, the light Lands have been improved, and rendered as valuable as the Clays, by ſowing them with Turnips, Clover, Cinque-Foin, *&c*, but more particularly in wet Years; a wet Seaſon, however, by no Means agrees with the Clays. In ſuch Years, for the moſt Part, there is a great Scarcity of Wheat; but then, to compenſate for that Deficiency, there is Plenty of Paſture, and other Grain.

Its Trees.

The Timber that grows in *England* is Oak, Aſh, Elm, Beach, and Horn-beam. The Walnut-tree is peculiarly uſed in Cabinets, and other Curioſities of the like Nature. But beſides theſe, there are a great Number of other Trees, which, tho' they do not fall, indeed, under the Denomination of Timber, ſerve for Shade, Ornament, and inferior Uſes.

In *Kent*, there are extenſive Orchards, the Trees whereof produce Abundance of Cherries. In *Devonſhire* and *Herefordſhire* likewiſe are vaſt Quantities of Apple-trees, the Produce whereof makes far better Cyder than any other County whatever can boaſt of.

Its Plantations.

In *Kent*, as well as *Eſſex*, are large Plantations of Hops; and in divers other Counties of Flax and Hemp.

In *Eſſex* and *Cambridgeſhire* are large Plantations of Saffron; and in *Bedfordſhire* there are large Fields of Woad, or Wad, for the Uſe of Dyers.

Its Rivers.

Its *principal Rivers* are, 1. The *Thames*. 2. The *Medway*. 3. The *Trent*. And, 4. The *Severn*.

The *Thames*, on which the two Cities of *London* and *Oxford* ſtand, runs generally from Weſt to Eaſt. This River is navigable for Ships as high as *London*, which is one of the greateſt Ports in the World. The

The *Medway* unites with the *Thames* near its Mouth, and receives the largeſt Men of War as high as *Chatham*, where are the fineſt Docks, Yards and Magazines of Naval Stores in *Europe*.

The *Trent* runs from the South-weſt to the North-eaſt acroſs *England*, and divides it into North and South. When united with other Streams near its Mouth, it is called the *Humber*, which diſcharges itſelf into the *German* Ocean.

The *Severn* riſes in North *Wales*, and running for the moſt Part South, falls into the *Iriſh* Sea. On this River ſtand the two Cities of *Worceſter* and *Glouceſter*.

Its Contents.

In *England* and *Wales* there are 52 Counties, 2 Archbiſhoprics, 24 Biſhoprics, 2 Univerſities, 29 Cities; upwards of 800 Towns, and near 10,000 Pariſhes; in which are about 7,000,000 of People.

There are ſcarce any Manufactures in *Europe*, which are not brought to great Perfection in *England*.

Its Conſtitution.

England is a limited Monarchy; the Power of making and altering Laws, and raiſing Taxes, being lodged in the King, Lords, and Commons.

Its Adminiſtration of Juſtice.

This is the Buſineſs of the Courts in *Weſtminſter*-Hall, *viz.* the Court of Chancery, the Courts

Courts of King's-Bench, Common-Pleas, and Exchequer, the Courts of the reſpective Corporations, the Sheriffs, and other inferior Courts; the laſt Reſort, in all Civil Caſes, being to the Houſe of Peers.

Its Eccleſiaſtical Government

Is in the Archbiſhops and Biſhops, who adminiſter Juſtice in their reſpective Courts by their Chancellors, Officials, Archdeacons, and other Officers.

Of the Convocation.

Whenever a Parliament is called, the King always convokes a national Synod of the Clergy, to conſider of the State of the Church.

The Clergy of the *Province* of *Canterbury*, for the Generality, aſſemble in St. *Paul*'s Cathedral, in *London*, and from thence adjourn to the Chapter-Houſe, or *Weſtminſter*.

In this Province there are two Houſes, the Upper and the Lower; the Former conſiſts of 22 Biſhops, of whom the Archbiſhop is Preſident. The Latter conſiſts of all the Deans, Arch-deacons, the Proctor for every Chapter, and two Proctors for the Clergy of each Dioceſe; in all 166.

The Archbiſhop of *York* may hold a Convocation of his Clergy at the ſame Time; but neither the One nor the Other has been ſuffered to enter upon Buſineſs for many Years, tho' they are always regularly ſummoned to meet with every Parliament, being looked upon as an eſſential Part of the Conſtitution.

Of

Of the Parliament.

Every *Parliament* is ſummoned by the King's Writs to meet 50 Days before they aſſemble. A Writ is directed to every particular Lord, ſpiritual and temporal, commanding him to appear at a certain Time and Place, to treat and adviſe of certain weighty Affairs relating both to Church and State.

Writs alſo are ſent to the Sheriff of every County, to ſummon thoſe who have a Right to vote for Repreſentatives, to elect two Knights for each County, two Citizens for each City, and one or two Burgeſſes for each Borough.

Every Candidate for a County ought to be poſſeſſed of an Eſtate of 600 *l. per Annum*; and every Candidate for a City or Corporation, of 300 *l. per Annum.*

The Lord Chancellor, or Keeper, for the Time being, is always *Speaker* in the *Houſe* of *Peers*; but the *Commons* elect their Speaker, who muſt be approved of by the King.

No *Roman Catholic* can ſit in either Houſe; nor any Member vote, till he has taken the Oaths to the Government.

The antient State of ENGLAND.

Having thus given our young Readers a tranſient Idea of the *Preſent State* of *South-Britain*; we ſhall now proceed to give a ſuccinct Account of the ancient State of *England*, which, in regard to its Conſtitution, was originally a Monarchy, under the primitive

Britons;

Britons; after that, a Province ſubordinate to the *Romans*; then an *Heptarchical* Government under the *Saxons*; then again a Kingdom in Subjection to the *Danes*; next after them, under the Power and Dominion of the *Normans*; but at preſent (after all the before-mentioned Revolutions) a Monarchy again under the *Engliſh*; of all which we ſhall treat, as briefly as poſſible, in their proper Order.

The whole Iſland was antiently called *Albion*, which ſeems to have been ſoftened from the Word *Alpion*; becauſe the Word *Alp*, in ſome of the original Weſtern Languages, generally ſignifies very high Lands, or Hills; as this Iſle appears to thoſe who approach it from the Continent. It was likewiſe called *Olbion*, which, in the *Greek* Language, ſignifies *happy*; but of thoſe Times there is no Certainty in Hiſtory more than that it had the Denomination, and was very little known by the Reſt of the World.

As the Name of *Briton*, however, excepting that of *Albion* or *Olbion* juſt before mentioned, has been liable to as many Derivations as the *Origin* of the *Britons*; we ſhall content ourſelves (for Brevity's Sake) with the following Extract from *Cambden*, who has given (in our humble Opinion at leaſt) the beſt and moſt natural Derivation of the Term.

"The antient *Britons* (ſays he) painted "their naked Bodies and ſmall Shields with "Woad of an Azure-blue Colour, which by "them

" them was called *Brith*; on this Account " the Inhabitants received the common Ap- " pellation from the Strangers, who came in- " to the Iſland to traffic from the Coaſts of " *Gaul*, or *Germany*; to which the *Greeks*, by " adding the Word *Tania*, or Country, form- " ed the Word *Brithtania*, or the Country of " painted Men, and the *Romans* afterwards " called it *Britannia*."

Here it may be obſerved, that the *Romans* were extremely fond of giving their own Terminations to many uncivilized Countries, and of forming eaſy and pleaſant Sounds out of the harſheſt and moſt offenſive to ſuch elegant Tongues and Ears as their own.

Their Government.

Their Government, like that of the antient *Gauls*, conſiſted of ſeveral ſmall Nations, under divers petty Princes, which ſeem the original Governments of the World, deduced from the natural Force and Right of paternal Dominion; ſuch were the *Hords* among the *Goths*, the *Clans* in *Scotland*, and the *Septs* in *Ireland*: But whether theſe ſmall *Britiſh* Principalities deſcended by Succeſſion, or were elected according to Merit, is uncertain.

Their Language and Cuſtoms were, for the moſt Part, the ſame with thoſe of the *Gauls* before the *Roman* Conqueſts in that Province; but they were entirely governed in their Religion and Laws by their *Druids*, *Bards*, and *Eulates*.

Their

Their *Druids* were held in ſuch high Veneration by the People, that their Authority was almoſt abſolute. No public Affairs were tranſacted without their Approbation; nor could any Malefactor (tho' his Crime was ever ſo heinous) be put to Death without their Conſent.

Their *Bardi*, or *Bards*, were Prieſts of an inferior Order to their *Druids*; their principal Buſineſs being to celebrate the Praiſes of their Heroes in Verſes and Songs, which were ſet to Muſic, and ſung to their Harps.

Their *Eubates* were a third Sort of Prieſts, who applied themſelves to the Study of Philoſophy.

Each Order of theſe Prieſts led very ſimple and innocent Lives, and reſided either in Woods, Caverns, or hollow Trees. Their Food conſiſted of Acorns, Berries, or other Maſt; and their Drink was nothing but Water. By this abſtemious Courſe of Life, however, they procured an univerſal Eſteem, not only for their ſuperior Knowledge, but their generous Contempt of all thoſe Enjoyments of Life which all others ſo highly valued, and ſo induſtriouſly purſued.

The moſt remarkable TENETS of their DRUIDS.

1. Every Thing derives its Origin from Heaven.
2. Great Care is to be taken of the Education of Children.

3. Souls

3. Souls are immortal.
4. The Souls of Men after Death go into other Bodies.
5. If ever the World ſhould happen to be deſtroyed, it will be by either Fire or Water.
6. All Commerce with Strangers ſhould be prohibited.
7. He who comes laſt to the Aſſembly of the States ought to be puniſhed with Death.
8. Children ſhould be brought up apart from their Parents, till they were fourteen Years of Age.
9. There is another World; and they who kill themſelves to accompany their Friends thither, will live with them there.
10. All Maſters of Families are Kings in their own Houſes; and have a Power of Life and Death over their Wives, Children, and Slaves.

Their ANTIENT STATES.

The *Britons*, or Inhabitants of what is now called *England* and *Wales*, conſiſted of the following *antient States*, and comprehended the ſeveral Counties hereunder particularly mentioned, *viz.*

States.	Countries.
1. *Dannonii*,	*Cornwall* and *Devon*.
2. *Durotriges*,	*Dorſet*.

3. *Belgæ*,

States.	Counties.
3. *Belgæ*,	*Somerſet*, *Wilts*, and the North Part of *Hants*.
4. *Attrebatii*,	*Berks*.
5. *Regni*,	*Surry*, *Suſſex*, and the South Part of *Hants*.
6. *Cantii*,	*Kent*.
7. *Trinobantes*,	*Middleſex* and *Eſſex*.
8. *Iceni*,	*Suffolk*, *Norfolk*, *Cambridge* and *Huntingdon*.
9. *Catieuchlani*,	*Bucks* and *Bedford*.
10. *Dobuni*,	*Glouceſter* and *Oxford*.
11. *Silures*,	*Hereford*, *Monmouth*, *Radnor*, *Brecon*, and *Glamorgan*.
12. *Diametæ*,	*Carmarthen*, *Pembroke*, and *Cardigan*.
13. *Ordovices*,	*Flint*, *Denbigh*, *Merioneth*, *Montgomery*, and *Carnarvon*.
14. *Cornavii*,	*Cheſter*, *Salop*, *Stafford*, *Warwick*, & *Worceſter*.
15. *Coritani*,	*Lincoln*, *Nottingham*, *Derby*, *Leiceſter*, *Rutland* and *Northampton*.
16. *Brigantes*,	*York*, *Lancaſter*, *Weſtmoreland*, *Cumberland*, and *Durham*.
17. *Ottadini*,	*Northumberland*.

Their general Character.

They were a great and glorious People, fond of Liberty and Property; but peculiarly remark-

markable for their rigid Virtue, and their Readineſs to die, with Pleaſure, for the Good of their Country. They long lived in a perfect State of Peace and Tranquility, 'till the Year of the World 3950, at which Time, its Monarchy (by the boundleſs Envy and Ambition of *Julius Cæſar*, (when *Rome* was in the Meridian of all her Glory) was totally ſubverted, and *Britannia* became a Province, ſubordinate to the *Romans*.

The Roman GOVERNMENT.

Cæſar, at his firſt Landing on the Iſland, found it not under a Monarchy, but divided into divers Provinces, or petty Kingdoms.

Soon after, having defeated *Caſſibelan*, and taken ſeveral *Britiſh* Provinces, he left the Iſland, and none of his Subjects returned for 90 Years and upwards.

However, in the Year of our Lord 42, *Claudius Cæſar*, the 5th Emperor of *Rome*, ſent his General *Plautius*, with great Forces into *Britain*, and following him ſoon after in Perſon, ſubdued a great Part of the Iſland; by which Means he procured the Title of *Britannicus*.

In the Year 50, *London* is ſuppoſed to be built by the *Romans*.

In this Year, *Oſtorius*, the *Roman* General, defeated *Caractacus*, the Chief of the *Britiſh* Princes, and having taken him Priſoner carried him into *Rome*.

The Chriſtian Religion, about this Time, was firſt planted in *Britain.*

In the Year 61, the *Britons*, under the Conduct of *Boadicea*, a *Britiſh* Queen, deſtroyed 70,000 *Romans.*

The next Year, *Suetonius*, the *Roman* General, defeated the *Britons*, and killed 80,000 of them upon the Spot; whereupon *Boadicea* poiſoned herſelf.

In 63, the Goſpel was firſt preached in *Britain*, by *Joſeph* of *Arimathea*, and eleven of St. *Philips*'s Diſciples.

The PERSECUTIONS *againſt the* Chriſtians *conſequent thereupon.*

1. The firſt Perſecution was begun by *Nero*, ſoon after he had burnt the City of *Rome*, which was in the Year 65.
2. The Second, by *Flavius Domitian*, in the Year 83.
3. The Third, by *Ulpius Trajan*, in the Year 111.
4. In the Year 162, the Fourth was raiſed by *Marcus Aurelius Antoninus*, and his Aſſociate *Lucius Verus.*
5. The Fifth was begun by *Septimius Severus*, in the Year 193.
6. In 293, the Sixth was raiſed by *Maximus.*
7. *Trajanus* began the Seventh in the Year 253.
8. In 255, the Eighth was raiſed by *Valerianus.*

9. *Valerius*

9. *Valerius Aurelianus* began the Ninth in the Year 272. And,
10. *Diocleſian* and *Maximianus* carried on the Tenth with the utmoſt Severity.

After the *Romans*, however, had been in the Poſſeſſion of *Britain* for near 500 Years, they left it to its antient Inhabitants again, who being at that Time ſunk into the loweſt State of Degeneracy, were ſoon after invaded by the *Scots* and the *Picts*; and trembling at the approaching Storm, they were prevailed on by *Vortigern*, their chief Monarch, about the Year 447, to ſend a Deputation to the *Saxons*, who were the only Perſons (as he inſinuated) capable of giving them that Aid and Aſſiſtance, which the unhappy Situation of their Affairs immediately required. This plauſible Pretence of that Prince ſucceeded, and one and all concurred in his Opinion; and by that Reſolution which they then took thereupon, they brought on the total Deſtruction of their Country.

Ambaſſadors from the *Britons* were accordingly ſent to *Witigiſel*, the then *Saxon* General, who immediately ſummoned an Aſſembly to hear what the *Britons* had to propoſe. The Latter, (like Men in abſolute Deſpair) offered to ſubmit to any Terms that their ſaid Aſſembly ſhould think proper, provided they did but protect, and ſtand by them ſo far, in their preſſing Neceſſities, as to enable them to drive

their Enemies out of their Country. The Propoſal was approved of, and the Negociation accordingly concluded.

The Terms were, that the *Saxons* ſhould ſend 9000 Men into *Britain*, who were to be put into Poſſeſſion of the Iſle of *Thanet*, and to be paid and maintained likewiſe at the Expence of the *Britons*.

Hengiſt and *Horſa*, both Sons of the *Saxon* General *Witigiſil*, who were brave and reſolute Men, fit for, and fond of ſuch an Expedition, were appointed in the Year 450, to command the *Saxon* Troops intended for the Relief of *Britain*.

Tho' theſe two *Heroes* arrived at *Ebbesfleet*, in the *Iſland* of *Thanet*, with 1500 Men only, inſtead of 9000; yet they were received with the utmoſt Reſpect by *Vortigern*, who put them immediately, according to Promiſe, in full Poſſeſſion of that Iſland.

As the *Picts* and *Scots*, at that Time, were advancing their Forces againſt the *Britons*; *Hengiſt* joined *Vortigern*, and inſpiring the *Britiſh* Troops with new Courage, a Battle was fought near *Stamford* in *Lincolnſhire*, wherein the *Picts* and *Scots* were ſo abſolutely defeated, that they were obliged to abandon their Conqueſts, and retire into their own Country.

Hengiſt, ever attentive to enlarge his Dominions, had a beautiful Daughter, named *Rowena*, with whom *Vortigern* fell deeply in Love, and demanded her in Marriage of her Father, who

who refuſed his Conſent, unleſs the amorous *Briton* would put him into Poſſeſſion of the whole County of *Kent*. The Terms were readily accepted, and the Match coucluded. In ſhort, this love-ſick Paſſion, this ſeemingly trivial Circumſtance, occaſioned the greateſt Revolution that had ever been felt in *Britain*.

The Saxon *Heptarchy*.

We ſhall now take a tranſient View of the *Saxon Heptarchy*, conſequent thereupon.

I. *The Kingdom of* Kent.

The firſt was the *Kingdom* of *Kent*, founded by *Hengiſt* in 455, and contained only that County; being inhabited by the *Jutes*. It continued 368 Years, and ended in 823, having been governed by ten of its own Kings, and ſeven doubtful, or foreign Princes; of whom four were Pagans, and 13 Chriſtians. Its principal Places were *Canterbury*, *Dover*, *Rocheſter*, *Sandwich*, *Deal*, *Folkſtone*, and *Reculver*.

II. *The Kingdom of the South* Saxons.

The Second was the *Kingdom* of the *South Saxons*, founded by *Ella*, in 491, and contained the Counties of *Suſſex* and *Surry*, whoſe principal City was *Chicheſter*. It continued about 109 Years, and ended about the Year 600; having only five Monarchs, of whom two were Pagans, and three Chriſtians: It was moſtly under the Power of the *King*'s of *Kent*, and the *Weſt Saxons*.

III.

III. *The Kingdom of the* West Saxons.

The Third was the *Kingdom* of the *Weſt Saxons*, founded by *Cerdic*, in 519; and contained *Cornwall*, *Devonſhire*, *Dorſetſhire*, *Wiltſhire*, *Somerſetſhire*, and *Hampſhire*, with the *Iſle* of *Wight*, and *Berkſhire*, tho' the Remains of the *Britons* likewiſe inhabited *Cornwall:* The principal Places were *Wincheſter*, *Southampton*, *Portſmouth*, *Salisbury*, *Dorcheſter*, *Sherborne*, and *Exeter:* It continued 'till the *Norman Conqueſt*, being 547 Years, and ended in 1066, having been governed by 17 Monarchs during the *Heptarchy*, of whom five were Pagans, and 12 Chriſtians: The Laſt of whom was *Egbert*, who in 829, became ſole Monarch of *England*.

IV. *The Kingdom of the* Eaſt Saxons.

The Fourth was the *Kingdom* of the *Eaſt Saxons*, and contained *Middleſex*, *Eſſex*, and Part of *Hertfordſhire*; where the principal Places were *London* and *Colcheſter:* It was founded in 527, by *Erkenwin*, and continued 220 Years, ending in 747; having been govered by 12 Monarchs, of whom two were Pagans, and the Reſt Chriſtians.

V. *The Kingdom of* Northumberland.

The Fifth was the *Kingdom* of *Northumberland*, founded by *Ida* in 547, and contained *Lancaſhire*, *Yorkſhire*, *Durham*, *Cumberland*, *Weſtmoreland*, *Northumberland*, and Part of *Scotland*, as far as *Edinburgh Frith*; the principal Places being *York*, *Durham*, *Carliſle*, *Hexham*, and *Lan-*

Lancaſter: It continued 245 Years, and ended in 792; having been governed by 20 Princes; of whom four were Pagans, and the Reſt Chriſtians, whoſe Subjects were *Angles*, and called the *Northumbrian Angles*.

VI. *The Kingdom of the* Eaſt Angles.

The Sixth was the *Kingdom* of the *Eaſt Angles*, which contained *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, and *Cambridgeſhire*, with the Iſle of *Ely*; where the principal Places were *Norwich*, *Thetford*, *Ely*, and *Cambridge*. It was founded by *Uffa*, in 575, and continued 218 Years, ending in 793, when it was united to the *Kingdom* of the *Mercians*.

VII. *The Kingdom of the* Mercians.

The Seventh and Laſt, was the Kingdom of the *Mercians*, or the *Middle Angles*, founded by *Cridda* in 582, and contained *Glouceſterſhire*, *Herefordſhire*, *Worceſterſhire*, *Warwickſhire*, *Leiceſterſhire*, *Rutlandſhire*, *Northamptonſhire*, *Lincolnſhire*, *Huntingdonſhire*, *Bedfordſhire*, *Buckinghamſhire*, Part of *Berkſhire*, *Oxfordſhire*, *Staffordſhire*, *Shropſhire*, *Nottinghamſhire*, and *Cheſhire*; the principal Places being *Lincoln*, *Nottingham*, *Warwick*, *Leiceſter*, *Coventry*, *Litchfield*, *Northampton*, *Worceſter*, *Glouceſter*, *Derby*, *Cheſter*, *Shrewsbury*, *Stafford*, *Oxford*, and *Briſtol*: It continued 292 Years and ended in 874, having been governed by 18 Monarchs, of whom four were Pagans, and the Reſt Chriſtians.

Egbert

Egbert *the Great, firſt King of* England.

In the Year 129 *Egbert*, the 17th *King* of the *Weſt Saxons*, became ſole Monarch of all the *ſeven Kingdoms*, and was crowned at *Wincheſter* in *Hampſhire*, by the unanimous Conſent both of the Clergy and Laity, *King* of *Britain*; and immediately afterwards, a *Proclamation* was publiſhed; whereby it was *Ordered*, that no future Diſtinctions ſhould be kept up among the *Saxon Kingdoms*; but that they ſhould all paſs under the common Name of *England*.

Tho' *Egbert* was a wiſe and fortunate Prince, and tho' the *Engliſh* were a brave and numerous People, after the Expulſion of the *Picts* and *Scots*; yet no ſooner was he well eſtabliſhed on the Throne, but this *Iſland* was expoſed to new Invaſions.

In 832, The *Danes*, having made two Deſcents before, landed a third Time with great Forces at the *Iſle* of *Shippey* in *Kent*; and in ſome few Months afterwards at *Charmouth*, in *Dorſetſhire*, with 18,000 Men.

In 835, they landed again in *Cornwall*; but *Egbert* was then prepared for them, and gave them a total Defeat. They renewed their Depredations, however, in 836, but were again repulſed: Soon after which, this Prince having reigned King of the *Weſt Saxons* 36 Years, and ſole Monarch of *England* upwards of Eight, died as great as he lived, and was buried at *Wincheſter* where he was crowned. He

was

was the Father, in ſhort, of the *Engliſh* Monarchy, and therefore juſtly entituled to the Name of *Egbert* the *Great*.

Ethelwulf, 2d *King* of *England*.

Ethelwulf, the only Son of *Egbert*, ſucceeded his Father in 836. Till he became a *King*, he had been only a *Prieſt*; or at moſt, only *Biſhop* of *Wincheſter* aforeſaid. He obtained, however, a Diſpenſation from Pope *Gregory* IV. and aſſumed a ſecular Life.

In the firſt Year of his Reign, the *Danes* landed at *Southampton* in *Hampſhire*; but were routed with great Slaughter. In 837, however, they made a ſecond Deſcent upon *Portland* in *Dorſetſhire*, and ſucceeded in their Attempt.

In 838 they made another Deſcent about *Romney* in *Kent*, with ſuch Succeſs, and ſuch great Slaughter, that they over-ran the Country.

In ſhort, they made freſh Viſits for ſeveral Years afterwards ſucceſſively, for the Sake of Plunder only, without the leaſt Intention of making a Settlement in the Kingdom.

Ethelwulf, however, in 852, aſſembling a numerous Army, with the Aſſiſtance of his Brother *Athelſtan*, met them at *Okely* in *Surry*; and there, after a deſperate Engagement, proved ſo victorious, that the Slaughter of their Enemies was almoſt incredible.

In 855 *Ethelwulf* went to *Rome*, in order to pay a Viſit to the Pope, in Perſon; and on re-

receiving his Benediction, he not only gratified the Vanity of the *Papal See* by his Devotion, but ſatisfied likewiſe its moſt avaricious Expectations, by his Royal Bounty.

In 857, after having reigned One and twenty Years, he divided his Kingdom between his two eldeſt Sons, *Ethelbald* and *Ethelbert*, and ſoon after died, and was buried at *Wincheſter* aforeſaid.

III. Ethelbald *and* Ethelbert. *Joint Kings of* England.

Ethelbald, whoſe Reign was but ſhort, and no ways remarkable, died in 860, and was buried firſt at *Sherborn* in *Dorſetſhire*, but was afterwards removed to *Saliſbury*, in the County of *Wilts*.

IV. Ethelbert, *the fourth King of* England.

Though *Ethelbert* bore an excellent Character, yet he was no Favourite of Fortune; for from his Coronation in 860 to his Death in 866, he had one continued Conflict with the *Danes*. He was interred at *Sherborn* before mentioned, near the Remains of his Brother.

V. Ethelred, *the fifth King of* England.

In 866, *Ethelred*, the third Son of *Ethelwulf*, ſucceeded to the Crown; in whoſe Reign the *Danes* committed great Ravages throughout the Kingdom.

Notwithſtanding, in 868, a great Famine and Plague happened in *England*; yet thoſe mercileſs and Blood-thirſty *Pagans*, the *Danes*, in 869, through their Averſion to Chriſtianity, ſet

ſet Fire to the religious Houſes in the City of *York*, murdered the Monks, raviſhed the Nuns, and made a Sacrifice of *Edmund*, titular King of the *Eaſt Angles*, by firſt ſhooting his Body full of Arrows, and afterwards by cutting off his Head. He was ſoon after interred at St. *Edmundſbury*, in the County of *Suffolk*, from whom it has ever ſince been diſtinguiſhed by that Name, as the Manner of that Prince's Death entituled him to the Honour of Martyrdom.

Ethelred, after having reigned ſix Years, was buried at *Winburn* in the County of *Dorſet*.

Alfred *the Great*, *ſixth King of* England.

In the Year 872, *Alfred* the Great (the fourth Son of *Ethelwulf*) ſucceeded his Brother *Edward*, whoſe moral Virtues endeared him ſo far to his Subjects, that they honoured him with the Appellation *of the Father of the* Engliſh *Conſtitution*. He was crowned at *Wincheſter* aforeſaid.

In the Year 878, the *Danes* ſettled themſelves in divers Parts of *England*, with whom *Alfred* fought divers Battles with various Succeſs; but at Length gave them a total Overthrow at *Eddington* in *Somerſetſhire*, and not only obliged their Leader *Guthrun*, the Chiefs of their Army, and the main Body of their People, to be baptized, but afterwards to retire out of the Kingdom.

This illuſtrious Prince, in 882, rebuilt the City of *London*, which had been burnt and deſtroyed by the *Danes* in 839.

As he was an excellent Scholar himſelf, he founded, or at leaſt greatly augmented, the Univerſity of *Oxford*.

In 893, the *Danes* with 300 Sail of Ships, under one *Haſtings*, invaded *England* again, but were defeated by *Alfred*'s Army at *Farnham* in *Surry*.

In 897, a Plague happened, and raged throughout the Land for three Years ſucceſſively.

In the Year 900, *Alfred* died of a Contraction of the Nerves, after he had lived One and fifty Years, and reigned Twenty-nine.

Edward *the Elder*, *eighth King of* England.

Upon his Deceaſe, *Edward* the Elder (ſo called, to diſtinguiſh him from *Edward* the Martyr, and *Edward* the Confeſſor) ſucceeded his Father, and was crowned at *King ſton* upon *Thames* in the County of *Surry*.

This Prince was a brave Warrior, and tho' invaded by the *Danes*, in the Year 905, he defeated them in *Kent*.

In the Year 911, he improved the Univerſity of *Cambridge* much after the ſame Manner as *Alfred* his Father had augmented *Oxford*.

In 921, he was in the Height of his Glory, all the Princes in *Britain*, of whatever Denomination, whether *Scotch*, *Danes*, or *Welch*, either ſubmitting to his Allegiance, or courting his Favour.

He died in the 24th Year of his Reign at *Farrington* in *Berkſhire*, and was buried at *Wincheſter*.

Tho'

Tho' he had three Wives, and ſeveral Children, yet *Athelſtan*, his Son, by One *Egwinna*, a Shepherd's Daughter only, ſucceeded him in his Kingdom.

Athelſtan, *eighth King of* England.

He was crowned in the 13th Year of his Age at *Kingſton* upon *Thames*, in the Year 924.

In the Year 938, he defeated both the *Danes* and *Scots*, and made the Princes of *Wales* pay him a Tribute of twenty Pounds of Gold, 300 Pounds of Silver, and 25,000 Heads of Cattle, with a large Number of Hawks and Hounds.

The ſame Year, he cauſed the *Bible* to be tranſlated into the *Saxon*, which was then the Mother Tongue.

Much about this Time, the renowned *Guy*, Earl of *Warwick*, is ſaid to have encountred *Colebrand*, the famous *Daniſh* Giant, and, after a ſharp Conteſt, to have killed him on the Spot at *Winchester*.

The memorable Encounter *between* WARWICK *and* COLEBRAND, *the* Daniſh Giant, *at* Winche-ſter.

Strength, *without* Art, *will prove of ſmall Avail;*
But Art *and* Strength *united ſeldom fail:*
See! with uplifted Arm and angry Eyes,
The Giant *meets his* Foe; — *but quickly dies.*

He

He died at *Glouceſter*, in the 46th Year of his Age, and in the 16th Year of his Reign, and was buried at *Malmſbury* in the County of *Wilts*.

Edmund *the Firſt*, *ninth King of* England.

In the Year 941, *Edmund* the Firſt, the Brother and Heir of *Athelſtan*, and the 5th Son of King *Edward*, was crowned in the 18th Year of his Age, at *Kingſton* upon *Thames*.

Though he was a brave Prince, yet he was ſoon diſturbed by the *Danes*. However, by the Aſſiſtance of *Malcolm*, King of the *Scots*, he overcome them, and obliged them to be baptized.

In the 6th Year of his Reign, he was aſſaſſinated, and ſlain at a Feſtival in *Glouceſterſhire*, by the ignoble Hand of one *Leof*, a notorious Robber, whom he had formerly baniſhed. The Traitor, however, was immediately cut in Pieces by the King's Attendants.

He was buried at *Glaſtonbury*, in the County of *Somerſet*.

Edred, *tenth King of* England.

Edred, the 6th Son of *Edward*, (notwithſtanding *Edmund* left two Sons, *Edwin* and *Edgar*, Infants) ſucceeded his Brother *Edmund*, and was crowned at *Kingſton* upon *Thames*, in the County of *Surry*, in the Year 946.

He was the Firſt that was ſtiled King of *Great-Britain*.

He died in 955 of a Quinſey, in the tenth Year of his Reign, and was buried at *Wincheſter*.

Edwy, *or* Edwin, *eleventh King of* England.

Edwy, or *Edwin* (the eldeſt Son of King *Edmund*) ſucceeded his Uncle, and was crowned at *Kingſton* upon *Thames*, in the 14th Year of his Age.

His Perſon was ſo beautiful, that he obtained the Surname of *Fair*.

He baniſhed one *Dunſtan*, an artful and ambitious Prieſt, who was proclaimed a Saint by the Monks, who, with him at their Head, formed a Conſpiracy both againſt the King and the Queen, and uſed them in a moſt cruel and ignominious Manner. This ill Treatment threw *Edwin* into an Exceſs of Melancholy, which occaſioned his Death, after he had reigned only four Years, and ſome few Months. He was interred at *Wincheſter*.

Edgar, *the Peaceable, the twelfth King of* England.

In the Year 959, *Edgar*, the *Peaceable*, when he was but ſixteen Years of Age, was crowned Sovereign of all *England* at *Kingſton* upon *Thames*.

This Prince was endued with many Virtues, and was born with ſuch good natural Parts, that his Judgment was ripe before the uſual Time.

His Reign was undiſturbed by War, and his Kingdom free from all Invaſions.

In 961, he augmented his Fleet, as ſome ſay, to 3,600 Ships only; but others aſſure us,

to

to 4,800, and reigned in greater Splendor than any of his Predeceſſors.

As *England* and *Wales* were at that Time ſorely infeſted by Wolves, *Edgar* aboliſhed the pecuniary Tribute which the *Welch* were obliged to pay him, and ſubſtituted in its Room an annual Tribute of 300 Wolves-heads; he moreover gave ſuch Encouragement for the Deſtruction of thoſe Animals in *England*, that in a few Years their very Species were exterminated throughout the whole Face of the Country.

He died in 975, in the 32d Year of his Age, and in the 16th of his Reign, and was buried at *Glaſtonbury* Abbey.

He was afterwards canonized by the Monks, for having erected in his Life-time near 50 Convents.

Edward *the Second*, *thirteenth King of* England.

Edward the IId, though an Infant, as he was *Edgar*'s eldeſt Son, ſucceeded his Father, and was crowned at *Kingſton* upon *Thames*.

In the Year 976, the Controverſies between the regular and ſecular Clergy ran very high: The Regulars, however, procured a Declaration from a national Aſſembly, then held at *Cleves*, in *Wiltſhire*, for the Reſtoration of their Poſſeſſions.

In 979, this unhappy young Prince was, by Order of his Mother-in-Law, Queen *Elfrida*, aſſaſſinated, and ſtabbed in the Back, whilſt he was, without any Attendants, drinking her Health

Health at her own Palace-gate, called *Corfe-Caſtle*, in the *Iſle* of *Purbeck*, in the County of *Dorſet*.

His Body, ſoon after the Commiſſion of this moſt barbarous and inhuman Action, was thrown into a Well, but ſoon taken out, and buried at *Shaftſbury*, or *Shafton*, in the County of *Dorſet*; where ſuch Miracles were ſaid to be performed at his Tomb, that on Account of his Innocence and Youth, and the Affection which the Monks had for him, he was ſoon after canonized, and diſtinguiſhed by the Surname of the *Martyr*.

Ethelred *the Second, fourteenth King of* England.

In the ſame Year, *Ethelred* the IId, the Half-Brother to *Edward*, though but 12 Years of Age, ſucceeded him, and was crowned at *Kingſton* aforeſaid.

This young Prince being of an indolent Diſpoſition, the *Danes* ſoon embraced the Opportunity of renewing their Invaſions: And the Prince now on the Throne, having nothing of the Spirit and Generoſity of his Predeceſſors, being brought up under his wicked Mother, and a Set of ſelf-intereſted Prieſts, was too great a Coward to face his Enemies, and too much of a Miſer to equip a naval Force for the Protection of his Subjects. In ſhort, the *Danes* infeſted the *Engliſh* Coaſts ſo long, that *Ethelred* firſt paid them a Tribute of 10,000 *l.* and afterwards

terwards another of 16,000 *l.* to induce them to diſcontinue their Depredations.

In 1002, *Ethelred* married *Elgiva*, Daughter of *Richard*, Duke of *Normandy*, vainly imagining, by that Alliance, to intimidate the *Danes*; but ſo far was he from ſucceeding in that Particular, that he was ſoon after obliged to pay 24,000 *l.* more, to ſtop the Outrages of thoſe bold Invaders.

About this Time, ſome Authors inſiſt, that there was a general Maſſacre of the *Danes*; but others look on that Story as a mere Fiction.

About this Time, the two Univerſities of *Oxford* and *Cambridge* were utterly deſtroyed by the *Danes*, and all Manner of Studies ceaſed in them for above one hundred Years after.

In 1006, *Sweyn*, then King of *Denmark*, ravaged all *England*, and obliged *Ethelred* to pay 30,000 *l.* for the Purchaſe of a Peace.

In 1013, *Ethelred* deſerted his Subjects, fled from *London*, and ſought an Aſylum for himſelf, his Wife and Children in *Normandy*.

Sweyn, however, inſtead of being crowned King of *England*, as he expected, was murdered by his own Soldiers, who looked upon him as a perfect Tyrant.

In 1014, *Ethelred*, upon the Death of *Sweyn*, returned to *England*, where his Subjects received him with ſo much Joy, that *Canute*, the Son and Succeſſor of *Sweyne*, was obliged to return to *Denmark*.

In

In 1015, however, *Canute* returned, and over-ran all *England.*

In 1016, *Ethelred* died, after an inglorious Reign of 37 Years, in the 50th Year of his Age, and was buried at St. *Paul*'s in *London.* In this Reign, it was firſt enacted, that Prieſts ſhould not marry; and that none ſhould ſell their Children for Slaves.

Edmund, *ſurnam'd* Ironſide, *fifteenth King of* England.

Edmund, ſurnam'd *Ironſide*, the third but eldeſt Son living of *Ethelred*, was, on the Death of his Father, recognized as King of *England*, by one Part of the Nation, and was crowned at *King ſton* aforeſaid; whilſt the other Part acknowledged *Canute.*

This Prince enjoyed the Virtues of his Anceſtors, and became ſo formidable to the *Danes* in ſeveral Engagements, that they were glad to terminate their War with him, by a ſingle Combat between him and *Canute.*

The Champions accordingly met in the little Iſle of *Alney*, near *Deerhurſt*, in *Glouceſterſhire*, and both engaged very valiantly in the Sight of both Armies. *Canute*, however, deſired a Parley, and offered to divide the Kingdom, which Propoſal *Edmund* accepted of.

Edmund, however, about 9 Months after this memorable Combat, was barbarouſly murdered by Duke *Edric*, and buried at *Glaſtonbury*; and upon his Deceaſe, the whole Kingdom became a Prey to the *Danes.*

Ca-

Canute *the Great, ſixteenth King of* England.

In the Year 1016, *Canute*, the Great, became the firſt *Daniſh* King of *England*, and was crowned at *London*. Soon after, he divided the Kingdom into four ſeveral Governments; and *Edward* and *Edmund*, the two Sons of *Edmund*, were baniſhed, firſt into *Swedeland*, and afterwards into *Hungary*, where they reſided for ſome Years.

In 1017, he aſſembled a Parliament at *Oxford*, where it was agreed to give him 81,000*l.* for the Arrears of his Navy. About this Time, he married *Emma*, the Widow of King *Ethelred*.

In the Year 1020, *England* was in full Tranquility; for the Virtues of *Canute* deterred his Enemies from interrupting his People.

In 1031, though he had been nurſed in Blood, yet he paſſed his Decline of Life in the Exertion of the mildeſt Virtues; for he was as humble as he was great; and from that Time could never be prevailed on to wear his Crown any more.

In 1035, he married his Daughter *Gunilda* to the Emperor *Henry* the IVth, and divided his Kingdoms between his Sons, who were all of Age, and appointed his Son *Harold*, ſurnamed *Hare-foot*, to hold the Crown of *England*.

In 1036, he died at *Shaftſbury*, in *Dorſetſhire*, in the 19th Year of his Reign, and was buried in the old Monaſtery at *Wincheſter*.

Ha-

Harold, *ſurnamed* Harefoot, *ſeventeenth King of* England.

The ſame Year *Harold*, ſurnamed *Harefoot*, was crowned at *Oxford*, by the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*.

In 1039, the *Engliſh*, looking on their King as an Uſurper, and a Tyrant, invited his Brother *Hardicanute* to come from *Denmark*, and take Poſſeſſion of the *Engliſh* Throne.

Harold died in this Year at *Oxford*, without Iſſue, and was buried at *Wincheſter*, without doing any one Action, worthy the Son of *Canute*.

Hardicanute, *eighteenth King of* England.

Hardicanute, on the Death of his Brother, accepted of the Invitation made him; and on his firſt Arrival was crowned at *London*, amidſt the Acclamations both of the *Engliſh* and the *Danes*.

Though this Prince had ſome Virtues, he had many Vices, and was for ever oppreſſing his Subjects.

In 1041, he died ſuddenly at *Lambeth*, in Debauch, and was buried at *Wincheſter*, with more Joy to the *Engliſh* than he was received with at his Coronation.

The Conduct of this Prince and his Brother *Harold*, being ſo reverſe from that of their Father, the *Danes* became the Objects of ſuch univerſal Hatred, that both the Nobles and People, with one Conſent, reſtored the *Saxon* Race

Race; and the inſolent *Danes* were obliged to abandon the Kingdom.

Edward III. *ſurnamed the* Confeſſor, *nineteenth King of* England.

In 1041, *Edward* the IIId, ſurnamed the Confeſſor, the ſeventh Son of King *Ethelred*, by the Donation of *Hardicanute*, and the Intereſt of Earl *Godwin*, was crowned at *Wincheſter*.

Before he came to the Crown, he promiſed to marry *Editha*, *Godwin*'s Daughter; but it was in the Year 1044 before the Nuptials were ſolemnized, and at laſt, they were never conſummated, notwithſtanding the Lady was the moſt amiable Perſon of her Age, both for Virtue as well as Beauty.

Though by his external Shew of a more than common Sanctity, he procured himſelf the glorious Titles of *Saint* and *Confeſſor*; yet, in Reality, he was but a weak and wicked Monarch; for he was not only inſenſible to his Wife, but perfectly cruel to his Parents.

In 1051, however, he aboliſhed the heavy Impoſition of *Dane-gelt*, amounting to the annual Sum of 40,000 *l.* notwithſtanding it had been paid for 38 Years without Intermiſſion.

He was the firſt Prince that ever touched for the King's Evil.

In 1065, he aſſiſted at the Conſecration of *Weſtminſter*-Abbey, which was then but a ſmall Monaſtery, and rebuilt it in a moſt magnificent Manner; and dying ſoon after, he was interred in the Abbey. He

He reigned 24 Years, and died without Iſſue.

Harold II. *twentieth King of* England.

Harold the IId, Son of *Godwin*, after the Deceaſe of *Edward*, ſeized the Crown, under Pretence of being appointed by *Edward* to ſucceed him; though, in Reality, he had appointed *William*, Duke of *Normandy*.

Whereupon *William*, in the Year 1066, made a Deſcent on the Coaſt of *Eſſex* (in order to make good his Claim) with a fine Army, and coming ſoon after to an Engagement, *Harold* was killed on the Spot, and was buried at *Waltham*-Abbey in *Eſſex*.

WILLIAM, *surnamed the* Conqueror, *the twenty-first King of* England, *and Duke of* Normandy, *from* 1066 *to* 1087.

His CHARACTER *in* memorial Verses.

WILLIAM, *a spurious Branch of* Rollo's *Race,*
From Norman *Duke to* England's *King we trace;*
He conquer'd Saxon HAROLD; *siez'd the Throne,*
Was brave, severe, proud, partial to his own.

Mother *Bunch*'s New History of *England*.

WILLIAM, the NORMAN.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors of the *East*.	
Alexander II.	1061.	*Michael* VII.	1071.
Gregory VII.	1073.	*Nicephorus* I.	1078.
Victor III	1086.	*Alexis* I.	1081.
Emperors of the *East*.		Emperors of the *West*.	
Conſtant XII.	1059.	*Henry* IV.	1056.
Romanus IV.	1068.	King of *France*,	
		Philip I	1060.

His Birth and Parentage.

HE was the natural Son of *Robert*, the VIth Duke of *Normandy*, by one *Arlotte* or *Harlotte*, from whence 'tis imagined by ſome, that the common Term *Harlot*, that is, a *Strumpet*, or *Proſtitute*, is derived, a very beautiful Virgin of *Falaize*, the Daughter of a Furrier, with whom he

he fell in Love, as ſhe ſtood gazing (according to ſome Hiſtorians) at her Father's Door, whilſt the Duke paſſed through the Town; or (according to others) as ſhe was one Day dancing with other young People in the Fields.

His Family were Deſcendants of the celebrated *Rollo*, the *Dane*, who firſt invaded *England*, and afterwards committed great Ravages in *France*, about the Year 900.

This Prince was born in the Year 1026, and was educated, in his younger Years, by *Henry* I. King of *France*, whilſt his Father, in a Fit of Devotion, paid a Viſit to our SAVIOUR's *Sepulchre*, in the *Holy Land*, where he ſoon after died.

Tho' this *William* claimed the Crown of *England*, as the free Gift of King *Edward* the *Confeſſor*, and made good his Title thereto by his Arms againſt *Herod*, whom he defeated, on the 14th of *October* 1066, in a bloody Engagement at a Place called *Battle-abbey* in the County of *Suſſex*; yet he artfully, and with ſeeming Modeſty, refuſed the Crown; but at laſt, accepted of it, as being elected King by the mutual Conſent of the *Engliſh* and *Engliſh Normans*.

He was crowned accordingly in *Weſtminſter Abbey*, on the 25th of *December* then next enſuing, which was in the 52d Year of his Age.

He began his Reign, indeed, by acting like a mild and merciful Monarch; but concluded it more like a Tyrant, and one, that was deter-

mined to reduce the Kingdom of *England* to a State of Slavery.

His Marriage.

This victorious Prince took to Wife *Matilda*, or *Maud*, the Daughter of *Baldwin*, the Vth Earl of *Flanders*; by *Hadila*, or *Alix*, the eldeſt Daughter of *Robert* II. King of *France*, a potent Prince at that Time, and very inſtrumental to him in his Conqueſt of *England*, by aſſiſting him with large Supplies both of Men and Money. She came into *England* in the Year 1067, and was crowned about *Whitſuntide* 1068, with great Pomp and Solemnity.

His Iſſue Male.

He had four Sons, namely:

1. *Robert*, ſurnamed *Courtchoyſe*, on Account of his ſhort Thighs; *Courthoſe*, of his ſhort Breeches; or *Courtois*, of his courteous Behaviour; who was born in *Normandy*, and ſucceeded his Father in the Dukedom thereof, which he left him by Will; but not contented to ſtay till his Death, he rebelled againſt his Father, who diſinherited him of his Kingdom of *England* on Account of his Diſobedience.

2. *Richard*, who was killed by a Stag in *New Foreſt*, in the Life-time of his Father.

3. *William*, commonly called *Rufus*, from the Colour of his Hair, and ſanguine Complexion; that Term importing *Red*. To this Son he gave the Kingdom of *England*.

And, 4. *Henry*, who ſucceeded his Brother *William*.

His

His Iſſue Female.

He had five Daughters, namely:

1. *Cicely*, who died an Abbeſs.
2. *Conſtance*, who married *Alant Fergeant*, Duke of *Bretagne*.
3. *Adela*, who married *Stephen*, Earl of *Blois*, by whom ſhe had a Son of the ſame Name, who was afterwards King of *England*.
4. *Adeliſa*, promiſed to *Harold*, the Uſurper, but died young and unmarried. And
5. *Agatha*, who was married to *Alphonſo*, King of *Galicia*.

His Wars.

1. He entered into War with *Sweyn*, King of *Denmark*.
2. With his Neighbours, the Natives of *Wales*.
3. With *Malcolm*, King of the *Scots*.
4. With the Duke of *Britany*. And,
5. With *Philip* the Firſt, King of *France*. In all which he proved victorious.

His partial, and arbitrary Proceedings.

1. He aboliſhed the *Engliſh* Laws and Cuſtoms, and ſubſtituted thoſe of his own Country in their Stead.
2. He degraded the *Engliſh* Language, as far as in him lay, by ordering all Law-Proceedings to be in *French*.
3. He mortified the Laity, by commanding, that all the *Engliſh* ſhould put out their Fires and Candles at 8 o'Clock, when they heard the *Corfew-Bell*, ſo called, from the two

French

French Terms *Couvre-Feu*, which ſignify *Cover-Fire.*

4. He humbled the Clergy likewiſe, by ordering that no *Engliſh* Monk ſhould bear any Secular Dignity.

5. He commanded an exact Survey to be made of all the Lands, Goods, and Chattels of all his Subjects, which were regiſtered in a Book, called *Doomſday-Book*, and depoſited in the *Exchequer*, where 'tis to be ſeen at this Day.

6. He raiſed a Land-Tax, called *Hidage*, the Income, or Revenue whereof amounted to no leſs than 400,000 *l.* Sterling *per Annum*, which was equal, at that Time, to ſix Millions at preſent.

7. He oppreſſed his Subjects by his Game-Laws, which were ſo rigorous, that whoever killed a Deer, was ſentenced to have his Eyes put out.

8. He was ſo fond of Hunting, that he depopulated the Country, for about 30 Miles in Compaſs, in order to incloſe the *New Foreſt* in *Hampſhire*, and would permit no one to hunt there, without his expreſs Permiſſion. And,

9. He built the Tower of *London*, in order to awe ſuch Citizens in particular whoſe Fidelity he ſuſpected.

Several remarkable Accidents in this Reign.

1. A great Fire in *London*, which conſumed St. *Paul*'s Church.

2. A

2. A mighty Flood, which is ſaid to have ſoftened and diſſolved many Hills.
3. In his 9th Year, there was a hard Froſt, which continued from *October* till the *April* following.
4. And laſtly, towards the End of his Reign, there was an Earthquake on *Chriſtmas-Day*.

Additional Memorandums.

1. The Coins of this Reign and the next were very ſcarce, till a great Number of them were accidentally found at *York* in the Year 1704.
2. The antient *Britons* never coined any Money, and in *Cæſar*'s Time, only made uſe of Iron Rings, and ſhapeleſs Pieces of Braſs, in Exchange for their Commodities.
3. The Silver Coins of the *Saxons*, called *Penies*, were all of a Size, and very ill minted.
4. The *Saxons* had likewiſe *Half-penies*, *Farthings*, and *Half-farthings*.
5. One of theſe antient *Penies* were really as much in Value, as *Three-pence* are at preſent.
6. Tho' the Art of Conveyancing has, doubtleſs, been greatly improved ſince this Conqueror's Reign; yet the two following *Grants* will be ſufficient to demonſtrate, that the Deeds in thoſe Days, were much more compendious, and conſequently leſs expenſive than they are in Ours.

The

The first is a *Copy* of the *Charter*, by which the Conqueror kindly restored to the *Londoners* their Rights and Liberties, drawn up in the old *Saxon* Language, which ran to this, or the like Effect.

" *William* King greeteth *William* Bishop, " and *Godfrey* Portreve, and all the Burgesses " that in *London* be, *French* and *English* friend- " ly: And I do you to wit, that I will, " that you enjoy all the Law which you did " in the Days of *Edward* King: And I will, " that each Child be his Father's Inheritor, " after his Father's Days: And I will not suf- " fer that any Man any Wrong you offer. — " God keep you."

The other remarkable *Grant* runs in the Words and Form following.

" I *William* King,
" The third Year of my Reign,
" Give to Thee *Norman Hunter*,
" To Me that art both Leef and Dear,
" The *Hop* and the *Hopton*,
" And all the Bounds up and down,
" Under the Earth to Hell,
" Above the Earth to Heaven,
" From Me and Mine,
" To Thee and Thine,
" As good and as fair,
" As ever they mine were,
" To witness that This is Sooth,
" I bite the White-wax with my Tooth,

" Be-

" Before *Jug*, *Maud*, and *Margery*,
" And my youngeſt Son *Henry*,
" For a Bow and a broad Arrow,
" When I come to hunt upon *Yarrow*."

His Death.

In his laſt Expedition againſt the King of *France*, which was in the Year 1087, he reduced the City of *Mantes* to Aſhes, and by approaching too near the Flames, he threw himſelf into a Fever; during which Indiſpoſition, he was conveyed to *Roan*, and from thence to a ſmall Village, called *Hermentride*, not far diſtant from that City, where he died on the 9th of *September*, then next enſuing, in the 64th Year of his Age, after a Reign of 52 Years in *Normandy*, and in *England* 20 Years, 10 Months, and 26 Days.

His Burial.

He was buried at *Caen* in *Normandy*, without any Ceremony, in the Monaſtery called St. *Stephen*'s Abbey, of which he was the Founder.

His Character.

He was tall, thick-ſet, and big; and his Corpulency was troubleſome to him in his latter Years. He was ſo vigorous, that Hiſtorians declare, no one could bend his Bow but himſelf. He was very laborious, ſeaſoned to all the Hardſhips of War, patient of Heat and Cold, Hunger and Thirſt. He had a great Soul, an elevated Mind, and a prodigious Ge-

nius, which ſuffered nothing to eſcape it's Reſearches; he delighted in War, underſtood it well, and had great Succeſs in it. When once he was provoked to Anger, it was impoſſible to appeaſe him. This the *Engliſh* found to their Coſt; for *William*, wearied out with their frequent Inſurrections, treated them with ſuch a heavy Hand, that he almoſt deſerved to be branded with the ignominious Title of a Tyrant.

WILLIAM II. *the twenty-second King of* England, *and Duke of* Normandy, *ſurnamed* Rufus. *From* 1087 *to* 1100.

His CHARACTER *in* memorial Verſes.

WILLIAM *the ſecond won but little Fame;*
He built that Hall which Weſtminſter *we name;*
Was valiant, raſh, intemperate and vain;
At laſt, by Tyrrel *in* New Foreſt *ſlain.*

WILLIAM II. surnamed RUFUS, the XXIId. King of *England*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.			
Victor III.	1086.	*Alexis* I.	1081.
Urban II.	1088.	Emperor of the *West*.	
Paschal II.	1099.	*Henry* IV.	1056.
Emperor of the *East*.		King of *France*.	
		Philip I.	1060.

His Accession *to the* Throne.

THIS Prince was 30 Years of Age when he ascended the Throne. He was called *Rufus*, from the Colour of his Hair, and his sanguine Complexion. He got Possession of the *English* Crown, by the Aid and Assistance of *Lanfranc*, then Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and *Eudo*, the High-Treasurer.

He was crowned by the Former at *Westminster*, on *Sunday* the 27th of *September*, 1087, according to some Historians; but by others, on the 5th of *October*, then next ensuing.

His Wars.

1. He engaged in a War with his Brother *Robert*, who was set up by his Uncle *Odo*, then Earl of *Kent*, in the Year 1088, in order, if possible, to dethrone him. *William* how-

however, ſoon put an End to that Rebellion, and was determined (in Return) to invade *Normandy*, and deprive his Brother of his Ducal Dominion, which he eaſily accompliſhed; for tho' the *Norman* Duke applied to the *French* King, in 1090, for his Aſſiſtance; yet *William* ſheathed the Sword of that Monarch by a Preſent of Gold.

In the Year 1091, however, he was reconciled to his Brother *Robert*, upon the Interceſſion of his Friends, and came to a Treaty with him, wherein it was agreed (amongſt other Articles) that the Survivor ſhould enjoy both *England* and *Normandy*.

2. In the next Place, he oppoſed *Malcolm*, King of *Scotland*, for eſpouſing the Intereſt of *Edgar Atheling*, his Brother-in-Law, whom he had baniſhed, and whoſe Effects he had confiſcated; but that *Scotch* King was obliged, in the Year 1093, to pay him the ſame Homage as he had paid to his Father before him; and ſoon after, not only he and his Son were ſlain, but the whole *Scotch* Army were totally defeated, and put to the Sword by one *Mowbray*, then Governor of *Northumberland*.

3. He engaged in a War with the *Welſh*, by whom he was greatly harraſſed and perplexed; for they had committed great Outrages both in *Shropſhire* and *Cheſhire*; *William*, however, in the Year 1095, avenged himſelf of thoſe Rebels, by driving them into their Foreſts, and obliging them to fly for Shelter

to their Rocks, and ſuch other Places as were moſt difficult of Acceſs: And as one Count *Eu* in particular diſtinguiſhed himſelf in fomenting that Inſurrection, his Puniſhment was very ſevere, if not inhuman; for *William* firſt gave Orders for putting both his Eyes out; and afterwards for depriving him of his Virility by Caſtration. And

Ever ſince this total Defeat, *Wales* has been under the Dominion of the *Engliſh* Monarchy.

His remarkable Tranſactions at Home.

1. He rebuilt *London* Bridge.
2. He raiſed a new Wall round the Tower of *London*. And,
3. He built *Weſtminſter-Hall*, which he made 270 Feet in Length, and 74 in Breadth.

Remarkable Accidents in this Reign.

1. In the 4th Year of his Reign, 600 Houſes in *London*, with the Roof of *Bow-Church* in *Cheapſide*, were blown down by a Tempeſt.
2. In the 10th Year of his Reign, the Earldom of *Godwin*, in the Eaſt of *Kent*, was overflowed by the Sea, and formed thoſe Banks, which are now called *Godwin-Sands*.
3. In his 11th Year, a Well, at a Village called *Tinchamſtead*, near *Windſor* Foreſt, in *Berkſhire*, flowed with Blood inſtead of Water. And,

4. In

4. In the ſame Year, great Flaſhes of Fire were ſeen in ſeveral Places for 15 Weeks ſucceſſively.

Additional Remarks.

1. In the Year 1096, the firſt Holy War was undertaken by the *Chriſtian* Princes with 300,000 Men, at the Inſtigation of the Pope.
2. In 1099, *Robert*, Duke of *Normandy*, engaged in the Holy War, and *Jeruſalem* was taken: Whereupon it was propoſed, that the Duke ſhould be made King thereof; but he did not think proper to accept of that Offer.
3. In this Reign, the County of *Glamorgan* was taken from the *Britons* by twelve *Engliſh* Knights. And,
4. In this Reign, the Taxes were not only numerous and heavy; but raiſed after a very arbitrary Manner.

His Iſſue.

Though this Prince had neither Wife nor Concubines, as we can find; yet Sir *Richard Baker* informs us, that he had a Baſtard Son, named *Bertrannus*, whom he advanced in Honour, and married into a noble Family; but he gives us no farther Account of him.

His Death and Burial.

As *William* was hunting one Day, in the Year 1100, near *Choringham*, in the *New Foreſt*, the Company diſperſed; when this Prince was left alone with one *Walter Tyrrel*, a

French Knight of great Worth, and a peculiar Favourite. As they were together, a Stag happened to paſs by, at which the King ſhot, and wounded it, tho' but very ſlightly; ſoon after, *Tyrrel* ſhot at another Stag, but miſſed it, and unhappily ſtruck the King full in the Breaſt with his Arrow, who immediately expired.

This fatal Accident happened on *Tueſday* the 2d of *Auguſt*, in the Year 1100, and in the 44th Year of his Age.

In all Probability, this Domeſtic of his had no wicked Intention in this Action; ſince we don't find, that he was ever ſo much as tried, much leſs puniſhed for the Commiſſion of ſo fatal a Miſdeed.

His royal Coarſe had no better a Conveyance than a Collier's Cart, from the Spot where he fell, to *Wincheſter*, where it was privately interred in St. *Swithin*'s Church, after having reigned twelve Years, eleven Months, and nine Days, where his Monument is ſtill remaining.

It is very remarkable, that he was the third Perſon of his Father's Family that came to an untimely End on that unfortunate Spot of Ground; which was imputed, in thoſe Days of Superſtition, as a Judgment on the *Conqueror*, for having ruined (as we have before hinted) not only four Abbeys, but no leſs than ſix and thirty Pariſh-Churches, to make a com-

a commodious Habitation only for a Parcel of wild Beaſts.

His Character.

The only good Quality remarkable in this Monarch was his dauntleſs Courage, which, however, was but one Remove from brutal Fierceneſs. He had had great Conteſts with one *Anſelm*, a *Norman* Abbot, who, in the Year 1093, was made Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*; and in 1095, he ſeized his Revenues, and detained them in his own Hands, for his Acknowledgment of the Pope. In ſhort, he carried his Vices and his Tyranny to ſo high a Pitch, that the mortal Wound he received from his Servant *Tyrrel*, as before mentioned, was looked upon by Many, not as the Reſult of mere Chance, but as a juſt Judgment of God Almighty, who removed him, in this Manner, out of Compaſſion to his Subjects, who long groaned under the Tyranny and Oppreſſion of ſo wicked a Prince.

HENRY I. *the twenty-third King of* England, *and Duke of* Normandy, *ſurnamed* Beau-Clerc. *From* 1100 *to* 1135.

His CHARACTER *in* memorial Verſes.

Learn'd and polite, the Conqu'ror's *youngeſt Son,*
By Wiſdom kept the Crown, his Wiles had won:
Brave, handſome, ſober; to his Subjects kind;
Yet faithleſs, covetous, to Luſt inclin'd.

HENRY I. XXIIId. King of *England*, and Duke of *Normandy*, ſurnamed *Beau-Clerc*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		*John Comnen.*	1118.
Paſchal II.	1099.	Emperors of the *Weſt.*	
Gelaſius II.	1118.	*Henry* IV.	1056.
Caliſtus II.	1119.	*Henry* V.	1106.
Honorius II.	1124.	*Lotharius* II.	1125.
Innocent II.	1130.	Kings of *France.*	
Emperors of the *Eaſt.*		*Philip.* I.	1060.
Alexis I.	1081.	*Lewis* VI.	1108.

His Birth and Parentage.

HE was the fourth, and youngeſt Son of *William* the *Conqueror*, born at *Selby* in *Yorkſhire*, in the Year 1070, in the third Year of his Father's Reign.

His Education.

He was bred at *Paris*, as ſome ſay, and others at *Cambridge*; and 'tis highly probable at Both; for he made ſuch an expeditious and ſurpriſing Progreſs in his Studies, that he deſervedly acquired the Name of *Beau-Clerc*, that is to ſay, the *polite Scholar*.

His

His Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

Upon the Death of King *William Rufus*, this Prince took the Advantage of the Abſence of his eldeſt Brother *Robert*, who was then on his Return from the *Holy Land*, after his Conqueſt of *Jeruſalem*; and repairing directly to *Wincheſter*, he all on a ſudden ſeized the royal Treaſure there; by which Means, he procured himſelf to be recognized King of *England*.

On the 5th of *Auguſt*, in the Year 1100, about four Days after his Brother's Deceaſe, he was crowned at *Weſtminſter*, by one *Maurice*, the then Biſhop of *London*.

His Wars.

1. *Robert*, Duke of *Normandy*, being returned, in the Year 1101, from the *Holy Land*, and making a Deſcent at *Portſmouth* with a numerous Army, in order to lay Claim to the Crown of *England* as his Birth-right, *Henry* came to a Treaty with him ſoon afterwards, wherein it was agreed, (amongſt other Articles) that *Henry* ſhould enjoy the Kingdom for his Life, upon the Payment to *Robert* of 3000 Marks *per Annum*; and that the Survivor ſhould ſucceed both to the Kingdom and Dutchy.

Henry (after this Treaty was concluded) was, for ſome conſiderable Time, peculiarly complaiſant to his Brother; and in order to ſteal upon his eaſy and generous Temper, and anſwer his own baſe, ſelf-intereſted Views, was

was perfectly laviſh of his Favours; but in the Year 1105, he threw off the Maſk, and made open War upon his Brother *Robert*, in which he proved ſo ſucceſsful, that, in the Year following, he reduced all *Normandy* to his Obedience, and took the Duke Priſoner near *Tenchebray*, a large Town in the lower *Normandy*; and ſoon afterwards conveyed him to *England*, and from thence to the Caſtle of *Cardiff*, in *Wales*, where he cruelly cauſed his Eyes to be put out, in order to prevent any farther Competition. There the unfortunate *Robert* lived for twenty-ſix Years ſucceſſively in that melancholy State; and at laſt, died there, a remarkable Inſtance, that high Birth is no Security for worldly Enjoyments.

It is obſervable, that this *Robert* never had but one Son, named *William Criton*, and that he proved as unſucceſsful as his Father.

2. After this, he engaged in a War with the *French*; *Lewis le Gros*, having aſſiſted the petty Lords of *Normandy*, who, at that Time, were in open Rebellion againſt their Sovereign. *Henry* thereupon croſſed into *Normandy*, where he defeated the *French*, took the great Standard of *France*, and carried it to the City of *Roan* in Triumph.

3. King *Henry* had likewiſe ſome domeſtic Wars; particularly with the *Welſh*, headed by the Earl of *Shrewſbury*; but he drove them back into their ſtrong Holds and Caverns; and the Earl, inſtead of acquiring any new Advantages,

vantages, loſt the Honours and Eſtates of which he was before poſſeſſed.

His Marriages.

This Prince firſt intermarried with *Maud*, or *Matilta*, the Daughter of *Malcolm*, the 3d King of the *Scots*; and afterwards, with *Adeliza*, the Daughter of *Geoffrey*, Earl of *Louvain*.

His legitimate Iſſue Male by Maud *his firſt Wife.*

He had only one Son, named *William*, who, in his Paſſage from *France* to *England*, was unfortunately caſt away and drowned; which Affliction caſt ſuch a Damp upon all the Succeſſes of this Monarch, and affected him to that Degree, that ſome Hiſtorians aſſure us, he never afterwards was ſeen to laugh.

His legitimate Iſſue Female by Maud *his firſt Wife.*

He had only one Daughter, likewiſe called *Maud* the *Empreſs*, who was firſt married to the Emperor *Henry* IV. and afterwards, to *Geoffrey Plantagenet*, Earl of *Anjou*.

Tho' he had no Iſſue by his ſecond Wife; yet he had a great Number of natural Children. Some ſay, that he had no leſs than ſeven Sons, and ſeven Daughters.

His remarkable Tranſactions at Home.

1. No ſooner was he ſeated on the Throne, but he ſhewed himſelf worthy of filling it: For he reigned with great Clemency and Juſtice; preferring learned and pious Men in the Church, and removing the ſcandalous

lous and ignorant: He mitigated, in a great Measure, the Rigour of the Laws introduced by his Father; remitting, or abating several heavy Taxes, and allowing the Nobility the Liberty of Hunting.

2. He was the first King who brought religious Processions in Fashion; and the first who joined Rivers for Navigation, *viz.* *Trent* and *Witham* from *York-Sea* to *Lincoln*, 7 Miles.

3. He founded also the Abbies of *Hide*, *Cirencester*, and *Reading*, and the Priory of *Dunstable*.

4. He held the first great Council, wherein the prohibiting of Priests, their Wives and Concubines were considered. In which the Bishops and Clergy granted to the King the Power of correcting them, as he saw most convenient, for so heinous an Offence; by which Means, he raised vast Sums of Money, by compounding with the Priests for certain annual Payments, to indulge them in the Enjoyment of their Wives and Concubines.

5. He granted his Subjects a very advantageous Charter, which confirmed several Privileges they had enjoyed under the *Saxon* Kings, and confirmed, in particular, the Laws of King *Edward*. He reformed likewise several Abuses that had crept into the Court.

Extra-

Extraordinary Accidents in this Reign.

1. His Son *William* (as we before obſerved) with many Lords and Ladies, was unfortunately drowned.
2. A great Part of *Flanders* was overflowed, which brought a great Number of *Flemings* into *England.*
3. In the ſecond Year of his Reign, the two Cities of *Wincheſter* and *Glouceſter* were reduced to Ruins by Fire.
4. Four *Circles*, and a *blazing Star*, near the *Sun*, appeared in the fifth Year of his Reign.
5. In his 13th Year, there was a great Mortality.
6. In his 14th Year, the City of *Worceſter* was deſtroyed by Fire.
7. In this Reign, the *Thames*, *Medway*, and *Trent*, were dried up to that Degree, that the ſmalleſt Veſſels could ſcarcely paſs along the Channels.
8. In his 16th Year, appeared a *blazing Star*, or a *Comet*; and *Cheſter* ſoon after was almoſt reduced to Ruins by Fire.
9. In his 33d Year, the City of *London* was burnt from *Weſt-cheap* to *Aldgate.*
10. In the 34th, the City of *Worceſter* ſuffered greatly once more by Fire.
11. At one Time, in this Reign, the *Moon* appeared as if turned to Blood.

Additional Remarks.

1. It was by this Prince's Order, that an *Engliſh* Yard was firſt eſtabliſhed.

2. The

2. The *Knights Templars* firſt began in his 19th Year.
3. In his 25th Year, a Law was made for *Coiners* to have, not only their Hands, but their Privy-Members cut off.
4. In this Reign commenced the Faſhion for the Men to wear their Hair long, as well as the Women.

Taxes in this *Reign.*

1. In his 6th Year, he ſet a Fine upon every Pariſh-church, and obliged the Incumbent to pay it for the Redemption of his Church.
2. In the 8th Year of his Reign, he raiſed 3*s.* for every *Hide* of Land; which Sum was appropriated for Part of his Daughter *Maud*'s Portion.
3. He had, moreover, during his whole Reign, an annual Tax of 12*d. per Hide.*

Memorandum.

He left behind him, at his Death, 100,000*l.* in ready Money; beſides a large Quantity of Plate and Jewels of an ineſtimable Value.

His Death *and* Burial.

In the Year 1135, this Monarch went over into *Normandy*, and died on the 2d of *December* then next following, at St. *Dennis*, in the Foreſt of *Lions*, after ſeven Days Sickneſs, of a Surfeit, taken by eating too freely of *Lampreys*, in the 65th Year of his Age; having reigned 35 Years and four Months, and been Duke of *Normandy* 29 Years, and upwards. And

in him ended the Iſſue Male of the *Norman* Line.

His Body, however, was brought from thence, to *England*, and interred in the Abby of *Reading*, of which he had been the Founder; but in what Part is unknown, as there are no Remains of any Monument. His Daughter *Maud*, the Empreſs was likewiſe buried in the ſame Abbey.

His Character.

He was very couragious; one of great Penetration, and ſoberly inclined. As to his Perſon, he was very comely, and graceful in his Deportment. As to his internal Qualities, he was a profound Scholar, as is the Import of his Surname; but then he was cruel, avaricious, and violently addicted to the Sin of Fornication. In order, however, to throw a Veil over his Vices, he founded ſeveral Abbeys and Epiſcopal Churches.

The HOUSE *of* BLOIS.

STEPHEN, *the twenty-fourth King of* England.
From 1135, to 1154.

His CHARACTER *in* memorial Verſes.

Valiant and prudent, bnt of dubious Right,
Which oft, with various Chance, was try'd in Fight.
At length, his own Son dead, this Prince agreed,
That Henry, *Son of* Maud, *ſhould him ſucceed.*

STEPHEN, of BLOIS, the XXIVth King of *England*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors of the *East*.	
Innocent II.	1130.	*John Comnen*,	1118.
Celestin II.	1143.	*Eman. Comnen*,	1143.
Lucius II.	1144.	Emperors of the *West*.	
Eugenius III.	1145.	*Lotharius* II.	1125.
Anastas IV.	1153.	*Conrad* III.	1138.
Adrian V.	1154.	*Frederic* I.	1152.
		Kings *of France*.	
		Lewis VI.	1108.
		Lewis VII.	1137.

His Accession *to the* Throne.

THE Male-Line of the *Normans* (as has been before hinted) being extinct in *Henry* I. and his Daughter *Maud*, the *Empress*, only left, and she married to a Foreigner, this *Stephen*, Earl of *Boloigne* and *Mortein*, the 3d Son of *Stephen*, Earl of *Blois*, by *Adela*, one of the Daughters of *William* the *Conqueror*, hearing of King *Henry*'s Decease, made all the Haste he possibly could into *England*, and notwithstanding his former Oath to *Maud*, the *Empress*, who was then absent, was, by the Procurement of *Henry*, his Brother, then Bishop of *Winchester*, and *Roger*, at that Time

Biſhop of *Saliſbury*, and divers other Perſons of high Birth and Diſtinction, of his Faction, received for King, and crowned at *Weſtminſter*, by the then Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, on the 26th of *December* in the Year 1135, being the grand Feſtival of his Name-ſake St. *Stephen*.

His Wars *at* Home *and* Abroad.

No ſooner, however, was the Crown ſet upon his Head, but he was drove to the Neceſſity of taking his Sword in Hand; for he was ſorely harraſſed both by the *Welſh* and the *Scots*; but he ſoon appeaſed thoſe Storms.

In the Year 1137, he was called into *Normandy*, which *Geoffry Plantagenet* had invaded, in Right of his Wife, the Empreſs *Maud*. This War, however, was ended by Compromiſe; the Terms whereof were, that *Stephen* ſhould reign during Life, on his Payment of a ſettled Penſion to *Geoffry*.

In 1138, a Conſpiracy was formed againſt him in Behalf of the Empreſs *Maud*, who arrived in *England* the Year following; and in 1141, about the Beginning of *February*, defeated King *Stephen*, and took him Priſoner; whereupon ſhe was declared Queen in a national Synod, and the Oaths of Allegiance to her were immediately taken by Perſons of all Ranks and Degrees, throughout the Kingdom. Some ſhort Time after, however, *Robert* Earl of *Glouceſter*, baſe Brother to the Empreſs, was taken Priſoner; whereupon King *Stephen* was

was releaſed on *All-Saints-Day*, in the ſame Year, by Way of Exchange.

In the Year 1142, *Stephen* laid Siege to *Oxford*, where *Maud* the *Empreſs* was reſident; from whence ſhe made her Eſcape to *Abington* on Foot, by Means of a deep Snow, and dreſſing herſelf all in White.

About five Years afterwards, ſhe left the Kingdom, and never returned.

In 1149, *Henry*, the Son of the Empreſs *Maud*, arrived in *England*, and uſed his utmoſt Endeavours to recover his Right.

In 1153, however, a Peace was concluded between *Stephen* and *Henry*, wherein it was agreed, (amongſt other Articles) that *Stephen* ſhould enjoy the Crown during his Life, and that *Henry* ſhould ſucceed him; and that the Caſtles, built by *Stephen*'s Permiſſion, being no leſs than 1117, ſhould all be demoliſhed.

His Marriage.

He intermarried with *Maud*, or *Matilda*, the Daughter and Heir to *Euſtace*, Earl of *Boulogne*, which Marriage was procured for him by his Uncle King *Henry* I, her Mother being Siſter to that King's Wife.

His legitimate Iſſue Male.

1. *Baldwin*, who was born in the Reign of *Henry* I. but died in his Infancy.

2. *Euſtace*, who was a Prince of very great Hopes, but died in the 18th Year of his Age. Some ſay he was drowned; but others that he died in a raging Fit of Madneſs.

3. *Wil-*

3. *William*, his youngeſt Son, Earl of *Mortaigne* and *Boloigne*, who died without Iſſue.

He had two natural Sons beſides theſe; one named *William*, and the other *Jervais*.

His legitimate Iſſue Female.

1. *Maud*, his eldeſt Daughter, who died young. And,

2. *Mary*, who firſt was a Nun, and afterwards, Abbeſs of the Nunnery at *Ramſey*, in *Hampſhire*.

His Tranſactions at Home.

1. He reſtored to the Clergy all the Liberties they claimed, and abrogated all the Laws relating to Hunting.
2. To ingratiate himſelf with the Nobility, he ſuffered as many of them, as were ſo inclined, to raiſe and fortify Caſtles upon their Eſtates, thereby laying a Foundation for a Number of petty Sovereignties.
3. He conferred likewiſe many new Titles, and profuſely diſtributed the Treaſure, left by his Predeceſſor.
4. He was ſo indulgent to his Subjects, that there were no regular Taxations in his Reign, and what was very remarkable, tho' he had many Enemies, it is not known, that he put any of them to Death.
5. He founded the Abbey of *Cogſhall* in *Eſſex*, *Furneſs* in *Lancaſhire*, *Feverſham* in *Kent*, and the Nunneries of *Carew* and *Higham*. In ſhort, more Abbies were built in his Reign, than in an 100 Years before.

Remark-

Remarkable Accidents in this Reign.

1. In his first Year, there was a great Fire about *London-stone*.
2. In his third Year, all *Rochester* was burnt, with 39 Churches, which it then contained.
3. And, in his fifth Year, the *Thames* was so frozen, that Horses and Carts passed over the Ice.

Memorandum.

In this Reign, 'tis said, that the Canon-Law was first introduced into this Nation.

His Death and Burial.

In the Year 1154, soon after *Henry*'s Return into *Normandy*, on the Pacification concluded the Year before, he fell sick at *Dover*, of the Piles and Cholic, with both which Distempers he had been long afflicted, which carried him off in a few Days after he had reigned eighteen Years and ten Months, and in the 50th Year of his Age. He was interred in the Monastery of *Feversham* in *Kent*, which he and his Queen had founded, who was likewise interred there with him.

His Character.

He was very valiant; a Man of extensive Genius, and sound Judgment. Tho' an expert Soldier, he was remarkably merciful and munificent. His Person was tall and majestic. His Air and Deportment were very graceful; and, in short, he was one of the most amiable Princes of his Age.

HENRY

HENRY II. *ſurnamed* Plantagenet, *twenty-fifth King of* England, *and Duke of* Normandy. *From* 1154, *to* 1189.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Firſt of Plantagenets, *now* HENRY *reigns,*
Fam'd for his Pow'r, his Luſts, and large Domains:
A Prieſt *imperious vex'd him all his Life:*
Then Sons rebellious, and a wicked Wife.

HENRY II. First of the Line of *Plantagenet*, or of the *House of Anjou*; sometimes called *Fitz-Empress*, or *Court-Mantle*; the XXVth King of *England*, and Duke of *Normandy*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.			
Adrian IV.	1154.	*Alexis* II.	1180.
Alexander III.	1154.	*Andronicus* I.	1183.
Lucius III.	1181.	*Isaac* II.	1185.
Urban III.	1085.	Emperor of the *West*.	
Gregory VIII.	1187.	*Frederic* I.	1152.
Clement III.	1188.	Kings *of France*.	
Emperors of the *East*.		*Lewis* VIII.	1137.
Eman. Comnen,	1143.	*Philip* II.	1180.

His Birth and Parentage.

THIS Prince, who was the eldest Son and Heir of *Maud*, the Empress, the only surviving legitimate Issue of *Henry* I. was born at *Mans* on the 5th of *March*, 1133.

His Education.

At nine Years of Age he came into *England*, where he was instructed in Learning, and from thence

thence ſent into *Scotland* to his great Uncle King *David*, and by him initiated into the Principles of State; and was knighted on *Whitſunday*, in the Year 1149, which was in the 16th Year of his Age, by his ſaid Uncle, at *Carliſle*, the capital City of *Cumberland*.

He had alſo a Taſte of War, though very young, under the Diſcipline of that famous Soldier, *Robert*, Earl of *Glouceſter*, his Uncle; who afterwards ſent him into *Anjou*, to Earl *Geoffrey*, his Father, who died, and left him his Dukedom of *Normandy*.

On the 6th of *November*, in the Year 1153, he was adopted by his immediate Predeceſſor, King *Stephen*.

His Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

On the 19th of *December*, in the Year 1154, he was crowned at *Weſtminſter*, by *Theobald*, then Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*.

His Tranſactions at Home ſoon after.

1. He drove a great Number of Foreigners out of his Dominions, whom *Stephen* had invited into them.

2. He razed to the Ground ſuch Fortreſſes as belonged to private Perſons; ſuffering thoſe only to ſtand, as he deemed neceſſary for the Defence of his Dominions.

3. He reſumed all the Grants of the Crown-Lands and Rents that had been made by King *Stephen*, inſiſting, that the Grants of an Uſurper were void, and of none Effect. He made likewiſe divers Reſumptions in *Normandy*.

4. He permitted the Laws of *Edward* to be revived, and confirmed the Charter which was granted by *Henry* I. his Grandfather.

His Marriage.

This Prince intermarried with *Eleanor*, of *Aquitain*, the eldeſt Daughter of *William* V. of that Name, Duke of *Aquitain*, the repudiated Wife of *Lewis* VII. King of *France*, but ſeparated from him by the Authority of the *Pope*, being, by joint Conſent, divorced for Conſanguinity, in the 3d or 4th Degree.

His legitimate Iſſue Male.

1. *William*, who was born in *Normandy* before his Father was King of *England*, *viz.* on the 17th of *Auguſt* 1152, but died an Infant in the Year 1156.

2. *Henry*, who was born on the 28th of *February*, in the Year 1154, and died without Iſſue.

3. *Richard*, who was born in *September* 1156, and ſucceeded him in the Throne.

4. *Geoffrey*, who was born on the 23d of *September*, in the Year 1158, in the 4th Year of his Father's Reign, but came to an untimely End; for in a Tournement at *Paris*, in *France*, he was trodden to Death by his own Horſe, in the Year 1186.

5. *Philip*, who died very young.

6. *John*, who was born on *Chriſtmas* Eve, in the Year 1166, and ſurnamed *Sans-Terre*, or *Lack-Land*, and ſucceeded his Brother *Richard*.

His

His legitimate Iſſue Female.

1. *Maud*, who was born in the 3d Year of her Father's Reign, in the Year 1157, and eſpouſed to *Henry* V. Duke of *Bavaria*, in the Year 1167.

2. *Eleanor*, who was born at *Roan*, in the Year 1162, and married to *Alphonſo* VIII. King of *Caſtile*, a Province in *Spain*.

3. *Joan*, who was born at *Augiers*, in *France*, in the Year 1164, and married to *William* II. King of *Sicily*, &c.

Beſides theſe, he had two natural Sons by his Concubine, *Fair-Roſamond*, the Daughter of *Walter* Lord *Clifford*, viz. *William*, ſurnamed *Long-ſword*, Earl of *Saliſbury*, and *Geoffrey*, Archbiſhop of *York*.

Note. The Story of this his celebrated Concubine, and of her being poiſoned by the jealous Queen *Eleanor*, in her *Bower*, or *Labyrinth*, erected by him at *Woodſtock*, for her Reception and Concealment during his Abſence from *England*, is very well known; and 'tis equally well known, that when he found, on his Return from *Normandy*, the fatal Effects of his Wife's Revenge, he (by Way of Reſentment of that inhuman Action) confined her cloſe in Priſon, where ſhe continued for 16 Years ſucceſſively, to the Day of his Death.

He had another Son likewiſe, by a Daughter of Sir *Ralph Blewet*, who was named *Morgan*, and tho' elected Biſhop of *Durham*, could

not prevail on the *Pope* to grant him his Confirmation in that See, on any Terms.

His Wars.

1. In the firſt Place, ſoon after he had done Homage to *Lewis* VII. King of *France*, for his Dukedoms of *Normandy*, and of his ſeveral Earldoms, he quarrelled with *Geoffrey*, his own Brother, and diſpoſſeſſed him of all his Dominions.

2. He declared War againſt *Raymond*, Earl of *Tholouſe*, a City of *France*, to which he laid Siege, but to no Purpoſe; upon which a Peace was concluded, on an Acknowledgment of 100 Marks of Silver, or ten Horſes, worth ten Marks each, to be paid to *Henry*.

3. He was engaged ſoon afterwards in War with one *Dermoth*, an *Iriſh* King, who was forced to ſubmit to the Power of two of his Captains, named *Robert Fitz-Stephens*, and *Richard Strongbow*, Earl of *Pembroke*: After which, *Henry* croſſed into *Ireland*, and appointed *Hugh Lacy* Governor of that Iſland in his Name, by the Title of *Grand Juſticiary*.

4. After this, he entered into War with *William*, King of *Scots*, and took him Priſoner.

5. In the next Place, he vanquiſhed *Philip*, Earl of *Flanders*, who had made a Deſcent into *England*, at the Head of a ſtrong Body of Forces.

6. And laſtly, he had ſeveral Engagements with the *Welſh*, who had been very outrage-

ous,

ous, and committed many great Disorders in *England*.

His Domestic Troubles.

Having thus secured Affairs abroad, he bent his Thoughts upon bringing the Clergy, whose Usurpations were intolerable, into Subjection to the secular Magistrates.

In this, however, he was strenuously opposed by *Thomas Becket*, an insolent Prelate, who, at that Time, was Archbishop of *Canterbury*, by the King's Indulgence.

The Dispute ran so high, that the Archbishop was forced to fly out of the Kingdom; but a Reconciliation being made, by the Mediation of the *Pope* and the King of *France*, he was permitted to return in Peace: But that Peace was soon interrupted by fresh Oppositions of that turbulent Prelate, which created the King so much Uneasiness, that four of his Domestics, who were all Knights, namely, Sir *Hugh Morvile*, Sir *William Tracy*, Sir *Richard Boritain*, and Sir *Reynald Fitzwar*, imagining their Attempt would prove agreeable to their royal Master, went down to *Canterbury*, unknown to the King, and murdered *Becket* in his Cathedral Church, whilst he was saying *Vespers*, on the 29th of *December*, in the Year 1172.

The fatal Effects of this wicked Assassination.

Upon this, *Alexander* III. at that Time *Pope*, being a very strenuous Asserter of the Prerogatives

tives of the Clergy, excommunicated the King.

However, on his Majeſty's public Declaration, not only of his Innocence, but his Abhorrence of ſuch a premeditated and impious Action, and on his too abject Submiſſion to whatever Terms his Holineſs was pleaſed to impoſe, he went to *Avranches*, an Epiſcopal City in the *Lower Normandy*, where he received from two of the *Pope*'s Legates, appointed for that Purpoſe, his Abſolution in Form.

Soon after this, his Zeal tranſported him to a ſtill meaner Condeſcenſion; for in the Year 1174, he went in Pilgrimage bare-foot, to the Tomb of the deceaſed Prelate, who had been then but lately canonized, and diſtinguiſhed by the pompous Title of Saint and Martyr, in Sight whereof he received no leſs than fourſcore ignominious Laſhes from the Hands of the *Prior*, and the *Monks* of the Convent, where his Body lay interred.

Memorandums.

1. It is here to be obſerved, that the Canonization of that Prelate, tho' 'tis highly queſtionable, whether he deſerved the Title of a commonly honeſt Man, much leſs a good Chriſtian, had ſuch an Effect in the *Romiſh* Church, that the *Shrine* of this new Saint was ſuperſtitiouſly reſorted to by all Ranks and Degrees of People, till the Commencement of the *Reformation*, and idolatrouſly worſhipped almoſt equally with *Jeſus Chriſt* himſelf.

2. It

2. It is likewiſe well worthy of Remark, that the four *Aſſaſſins* (upon the Perpetration of their iniquitous Murder) fled immediately out of the Kingdom; and finding their ſelf-intereſted Views all entirely fruſtrated, never attempted to return; but wandered about for ſome Time (like *Cain*) in Exile and Diſgrace, and at laſt died in the moſt deplorable State and Condition, in all the Agonies of conſcious Guilt and deep Deſpair.

After this ſhort Digreſſion, it will be proper to add ſome other Mortifications which King *Henry* met with in his Decline of Life.

From the Year 1173, to the Day of his Deceaſe, he was ſo harraſſed and perplexed by his turbulent and unruly Wife, in Conjunction with her undutiful and rebellious Sons, that they left him not the leaſt Interval of Eaſe and Peace of Mind; and as an Inſtance of his Rage and Reſentment of their unnatural Conſpiracies againſt him, we are informed, that ſome ſhort Time before he fell ſick, he not only (like *Job*) in a Fit, as it were, of Deſpair, curſed the Day of his own Birth, but vented the moſt direful Imprecations his unruly Paſſions could deviſe, againſt his perfidious Conſort, and all her rebellious Offſpring.

Taxes in this *Reign*.

In the Beginning of his Reign, there was a *Scutage*, but to what particular Sum it amounted we have no Account.

There

There was a second in the 5th Year of his Reign, the Intention whereof was to raise Men for the Siege of *Tholouse*, amounting to the Sum of 180,000 *l.*

Two Years after that, there was a third, at two Marks every Knight's-Fee.

In the 12th Year of his Reign, there was a Tax of 2 *d.* in the Pound for the first Year, and 1 *d.* in the Pound for four Years after, on all Rents and Moveables.

In the 14th Year of his Reign, there was another *Scutage*, at a Mark every Knight's-Fee.

In the 18th, another, but to what Sum it amounted is uncertain. And,

In the last Year of his Reign, there was one more, and that was a Tenth on all Moveables for the *Crusado*.

Remarkable Occurrences in this Reign.

1. No Lions were ever kept in the Tower till this Time; but that Custom has been continued ever since.
2. In the 9th Year of this King's Reign, *London-Bridge* was rebuilt with Timber.
3. His 12th Year was remarkable for an Earthquake, which was so strongly felt in *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, and the *Isle of Ely*, that it threw People down, and made the Bells ring in the Steeples.
4. A marvellous *Dragon* was seen at *Osyths*, in his 17th Year, which fired Houses as it moved along.

5. In

5. In the 23d Year, a Shower of Blood fell down in the *Iſle of Wight*.
6. In the 26th Year, a wonderful *Fiſh* was taken, the upper Part whereof bore the Reſemblance of a Man.
7. Several Bones of an extraordinary Magnitude were dug up, in the 34th Year of his Reign, which were ſuppoſed to be thoſe of the *Britiſh* Hero *Arthur*, and his Wife *Guinemour*.
8. Towards the Cloſe of his Reign, not only the City of *London*, but that of *Paris* likewiſe was paved with Stones.
9. And laſtly, as the Houſes in *Lubeck* had been burnt down by reaſon of their being thatched, the Cuſtom of thatching Houſes from thence forwards was diſcontinued, and Tyling was ſubſtituted in its Room.

His Death and Burial.

After a Reign ſufficiently glorious, though attended with great Troubles and Vexations, (as has been already ſhewn) he died with Grief, at *Chinon* in *Normandy*, and was interred in the Abbey of *Font-Evraud*, after he had ſat on the Throne 34 Years and upwards, and in the 57th Year of his Age.

His Character.

He was poſſeſſed of a thouſand fine Qualities; was brave, generous, magnificent, clement, juſt and prudent; but his Luſt and Ambition were inſatiable; and tho' he was naturally

naturally hot, and paſſionate to Exceſs at Times; yet, for the moſt Part, he was extremely affable and courteous; and remarkably ſo to the Ladies of his Court.

RICHARD

RICHARD I. *ſurnamed* Cœur de Lion, *(or* Lion's Heart) *the twenty-ſixth King of* England *and* Cyprus. *From* 1189 *to* 1199.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Richard *for boiſt'rous Courage chiefly known,*
Waſted his Years in Countries, not his own;
A Priſoner long; at laſt untimely ſlain;
England *had ſmall Advantage from his Reign.*

RICHARD I. surnamed *Cœur de Lion*, (or *Lion's Heart*) XXVIth King of *England*, and *Cyprus*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors of the *West*.	
Clement III.	1188.	*Frederic* I.	1152.
Celeſtin III.	1191.	*Henry* VI.	1190.
Innocent III.	1198.	*Philip* I.	1197.
Emperors of the *Eaſt*.		King of *France*.	
Iſaac II.	1185.	*Philip* II.	1180.
Alexis III.	1195.		

His Birth and Education.

THIS Prince, the third, but eldeſt ſurviving Son of *Henry* II. was born at *Oxford*, in the Year 1157, and in the third Year of his Father's Reign. He was trained up to War in *France*, and on Account of his diſtinguiſhed Valour, was ſurnamed *Cœur de Lion*, as above obſerved.

Remarkable Incidents before his Acceſſion to the Throne.

1. He concluded a Peace with *Philip Auguſtus*, who gave him back *Mans*, and divers other Cities which he had taken from *Henry*.

2. After

2. After this, he went to *Roan*, where the Ducal Sword was put into his Hand.

3. Upon the News of his Father's Death, which he received in *France*, he immediately ſecured the King's Treaſure in that Kingdom, which amounted (according to ſome Hiſtorians) to no leſs than 900,000 *l.*

4. No ſooner was he arrived in *England*, but he ſet his Mother, Queen *Eleanor*, at Liberty, on the 20th of *July* 1189, who had been cloſely confined by his Father for the Murder of *Fair Roſamond* (as has been hinted before) for 16 Years ſucceſſively.

His Acceſſion *to the Throne.*

Having ſet his Mother at Liberty, he went directly to *London*, and was crowned at *Weſtminſter* on the 3d of *September* then next enſuing.

His remarkable Tranſactions after his Coronation.

1. Having agreed (before his Arrival in *England*) with *Philip Auguſtus*, then King of *France*, to go in Perſon to the *Holy War*, he began, ſoon after his being well eſtabliſhed on the *Engliſh* Throne, to raiſe immenſe Sums of Money for that particular Expedition, excluſive of what was left him by his Father.

A ſufficient Sum being thus raiſed, he provided a numerous Fleet, and ſent on Board it 30,000 Foot, and 5000 Horſe.

3. Soon after, he went in Perſon to *France*, in order to meet it at *Marſeilles*.

4. In

4. In his Paſſage to the *Holy Land*, he was driven by contrary Winds on the Iſland of *Cyprus*, where he tarried ſome conſiderable Time; but, contrary to his Expectations, meeting with an inhoſpitable Treatment from the Natives of the Iſland, and with Treachery from their King *Iſaac*, he landed his Army, and ſoon made himſelf Maſter of the whole Country.

5. Upon this abſolute Conqueſt, he was conſtituted King of the Iſland, but afterwards exchanged it for that of King of *Jeruſalem*, with one *Guy* of *Luſignan*, which Title the Monarchs of *England* aſſumed for many Years after; but the King of *Sardinia* only bears it at preſent.

6. From *Cyprus*, this Monarch ſet ſail for *Paleſtine*, where, joining with the *French* King, and ſome other Chriſtian Forces, he laid Siege to the City of *Acon*, and took it in the Year 1191.

7. Some ſhort Time after this Conqueſt, he defeated the great *Saracen* Army, commanded by *Saladine*, and killed upwards of 40,000 of his Soldiers.

8. Soon after this deciſive Battle, K. *Philip*, upon ſome Miſunderſtanding between him and *Richard*, which had unhappily ſubſiſted for ſome Time, in order to avoid coming to an open Rupture, in that diſtant Country, returned Home, and, on his firſt Arrival, invaded *Normandy*.

9. In

9. In the Year 1192, King *Richard*, having made a Truce with *Saladin*, left the *Holy Land*.

His Misfortunes conſequent thereon.

1. Being abandoned by the Chriſtian Princes, and apprehenſive of *Philip*'s Attempts to ſieze his Dominions in *France*, during his Abſence, and hearing, moreover, of the bad News, that his Brother had formed a Rebellion againſt him, *Richard* reſolved to get Home as ſoon as poſſible; and, in order to anſwer that deſireable End, he determined to take his Journey by Land, in Diſguiſe; but notwithſtanding all his Precaution, he was diſcovered in his Paſſage through *Vienna*, and ſeized by *Leopold*, Arch-Duke of *Auſtria*, whom he had affronted in the *Holy Land*.

2. This *Leopold* kept him for the Space of twelve Months, and afterwards delivered him to the Emperor *Henry* VII. his ſworn Enemy, who demanded no leſs than 100,000 Marks of Silver for his Ranſom.

3. Upon the Payment of the above Sum, however, in the Year 1193, he was ſet at Liberty, and returned Home; but found his Kingdom much impoveriſhed by the Supplies he had drawn from it, and in great Confuſion, through the Mal-Adminiſtration of one *William Longchamp*, then Biſhop of *Ely*, to whoſe Care and Conduct he had left the Government, on his Departure from *England*.

His second Coronation.

Soon after his Arrival, he was crowned again at *Wincheſter*; but his Stay in *England* was very ſhort; for in the Year 1194, he ſailed into *Normandy*, in order to ſecure that Country againſt the Arms of the *French*, with whom he carried on a War for above three Years ſucceſſively. However, at laſt, in the Year 1197, he obtained ſo compleat a Victory over King *Philip*, that he was glad to conclude a Truce with his injured and warlike Enemy on any Terms.

In the Year following, one *Wodomar*, Viſcount of *Limoges*, in *France*, having found a vaſt hidden Treaſure, ſent a Part of it to King *Richard*; but, not ſatisfied therewith, he demanded the Whole. Being refuſed, he laid Siege to *Wodomar* in his Caſtle, but miſcarried in the Attempt; for, as he was reconnoitring the Place, one *Bartram de Guidon* ſhot him in the Arm with a bearded Arrow, of which Wound he ſoon after died.

His Marriage.

Tho' he was contracted in his Infancy to a Daughter of *Raymond*, Count of *Barcelona*, yet he never married her: And notwithſtanding when he was grown up, he was affianced to *Adela*, the Daughter of *Lewis* VII. yet he never carried that Contract into Execution: In his Journey afterwards, however, to the *Holy Land*, he actually intermarried with one *Berengaria*, the Daughter of *Sancho*, the ſixth King

King of *Navarre*, which Match was procured for him by Queen *Eleanor*, his Mother.

Though the King neglected her Company for ſome Time; yet afterwards he retained a real Affection for her; and, indeed, ſhe well deſerved it; for ſhe was a very virtuous, diſcreet, and beautiful Woman; and One, who, out of a ſincere Regard for him, adventured many Dangers both by Sea and Land.

However, notwithſtanding this mutual Affection, he left no Iſſue behind him.

Taxes in this King's Reign.

1. In the firſt Year a *Scutage* of 10 *s.* for every Knight's-Fee.

2. In the ſecond Year, towards his Expedition to the *Holy Land*, two Saddle-Horſes, and two Sumpter-Horſes were taken of every City; of every Abbey, one Saddle-Horſe, and one Sumpter-Horſe; and of every of the King's Manors the ſame as of the Abbeys.

3. For his Ranſom, when Priſoner to the Emperor, of every Knight's-Fee 20 *s.*; a 4th Part of the Rents of the Laics; a 4th Part of the Rents of ſome Clerks, and a 10th of others; all the Gold and Silver that the Churches had; and all the Wool of that Year of the *Ciſtercian* Monks, and the Order of *Semplingham*.

4. Of every Plow-Land 2 *s.* of the Huſbandmen or Occupiers.

5. Of every Knight's-Fee, a third Part of the Service, for his Expedition into *Normandy*;

of

of the *Ciſtercians*, the King demanded their Wool, for which they compounded.

6. For the Liberty of Tournament, every Earl gave 20 Marks; every Baron 10 Marks; every landed Knight 4 Marks; and every Knight of Fortune 2 Marks.

7. In the two Years 1195 and 1196, were raiſed no leſs than 1,100,000 Marks; but not ſaid how; alſo an Aid of 5 *s.* every Plow-Land.

8. Great Sums were alſo raiſed by Seizures, Fines and Compoſitions, and Sale of the Demeſne-Lands.

Memorandums.

1. From the prodigious Levies abovementioned, 'tis evident, that tho' this Monarch's Reign was, in ſome Reſpect, glorious to himſelf, yet it was very grievous to his Subjects.

2. As an Addition to their Diſcontent, it is remarkable, that they enjoyed but a very ſmall Share of their Monarch's Preſence; for he did not reſide in *England* the Space of one ſingle Year, during his whole Reign.

Remarkable Occurrences in this Reign.

1. It was in this Reign, that *Robin Hood* and *Little John*, the two famous Archers and Free-booters, performed thoſe great Atchievements, which we find commemorated in our antient Ballads.

2. There was alſo a great Famine, which continued for between three and four Years without Intermiſſion, and was followed by ſuch

ſuch a dreadful Mortality, that ſome Hiſtorians aſſure us, the Living were hardly ſufficient for the Burial of the Dead.

3. The Town of *Marling* in *Kent*, and the Nunnery belonging to it, were conſumed by Fire.

His Death *and* Burial.

As he was reconnoitring the Caſtle of *Challons*, in *France*, to which he had laid Siege (as has been before hinted) he was ſhot in the Arm with a bearded Arrow, by one *Bertram de Guidon*; which Arrow, being extracted by an unſkilful Surgeon, the King died of it in the 42d Year of his Age, after he had reigned 9 Years and 9 Months.

He was interred at the Feet of his Father, at *Font-Evraud*, where a ſtately Monument to their Memory was erected, in the laſt Century, by the Abbeſs of *Bourbon*, Daughter of *Henry* the Great.

His Character.

This Monarch was of a proportionable Stature, a pleaſant Countenance, and a very engaging Behaviour. His Eyes were blue, but full of Fire; and his Hair of a Yellow Caſt, not far unlike to Red. —— He was a Man of ſuch invincible Courage and Intrepidity, that he juſtly deſerved the Surname of *Lion's Heart*, which he obtained in his Youth: But as to any other good Qualities, he had none to boaſt of.

JOHN

JOHN, *surnamed* Sans-Terre, *or* Lack-Land, *the twenty-seventh King of* England. *From* 1199, to 1216.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

JOHN's *Reign was full of Troubles and Turmoils,*
From his bad Conduct, and from prieſtly Wiles;
England's *great* Charter *by the* Barons *won,*
He gave; — *but to the* Pope *reſign'd his Crown.*

JOHN,

JOHN, ſurnamed *Sans-Terre*, or *Lack-Land*, the XXVIIth King of *England*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.			
Innocent III.	1198.	*Philip.* I.	1197.
Honorius III.	1215.	*Otho* IV.	1208.
Emperors of the *Eaſt.*		*French* Emperors of *Conſtant.*	
Alexis III.	1195.	*Baldwin* I.	1204.
Alexis IV.	1203.	*Henry* I.	1206.
Alexis V.	1204.	King of *France.*	
Theodorus I.	1204.	*Philip* II.	1180.
Emperors of the *Weſt.*			

His Birth and Parentage.

THIS Prince JOHN was the fifth Son of King *Henry* II. and was born at *Oxford*, in the Year 1166, and in the 13th Year of his Father's Reign. His Father was peculiarly fond of him, and notwithſtanding, in a jocular Way, he ſurnamed him *Lack-Land*, yet, when he was but ſeven Years of Age, he ſettled on him, not only certain Lands in *England*, but likewiſe others in *Normandy*.

His

His Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

This Prince, by Virtue of the laſt Will and Teſtament of *Richard* I. and the high Reputation of the following Perſons, namely, *Hubert*, Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, *William Marſhall*, the then chief Juſticiary, and Queen *Eleanor* his Mother, who eſpouſed his Intereſt, came as ſoon as poſſible into *England*, and was crowned at *Weſtminſter* on the 6th of *April*, as ſome Hiſtorians ſay; but others aſſert, that he was not crowned till the 28th of *May*, by Archbiſhop *Hubert* abovementioned, notwithſtanding *Arthur*, the Son of *Geoffrey*, King *Henry*'s third Son was then living.

His Military Actions *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. He firſt entered into War with *Philip*, King of *France*, who had eſpouſed the Cauſe of *Arthur*, and took him under his Protection; but perceiving that he had no great Proſpect of Succeſs, he ſued for Peace, in the Year 1200; which King *John* granted upon very advantageous Terms to himſelf.

This Peace, however, proved of no long Duration; for ſoon after, *Philip* entered *Normandy*, Sword in Hand, and ſent *Arthur* a Body of Troops, in order to make a Diverſion on his Side.

That Attempt, however, proved unſucceſsful; for *John* went over, as ſoon as poſſible, and attacked *Arthur*, and *Hugh le Brun*, Earl

Earl of *March*, who had eſpouſed his Intereſt, and not only routed all their Forces, but took them both Priſoners; as alſo, *Eleanor*, the Siſter of Prince *Arthur*.

Arthur did not long ſurvive this Misfortune; for he was either murdered in Priſon, as his Friends gave out, or was unhappily drowned in a River, by an Attempt which he made to eſcape from his Confinement, or died with Grief, as is the Opinion of Many; but whether he died a natural or a violent Death cannot poſſibly be determined. It is certain, however, that he died in the Year 1202, and that his Siſter *Eleanor* did not long ſurvive him.

Tho' King *John* was, to all Appearance, at this Time without Competitors; yet his Troubles did not ceaſe upon this Conqueſt; for ſoon after, *Conſtantia*, the Mother of *Arthur* and *Eleanor*, made her Application to the King of *France* for Revenge on *John*; whereupon *Philip* ſummoned him (as his Homager) to appear before him; and anſwer concerning the Death of his Nephew *Arthur*.

King *John*, refuſing to obey his Summons, was adjudged guilty of this Murder, and, as a Traitor to *Philip*, to forfeit all the Dominions which he held of the Crown of *France*; and in the Year 1203, *Philip* took ſeveral of his Towns in *Normandy*.

However, King *John*, by the Aſſiſtance of *Guy*, Duke of *Britany*, the Huſband of *Conſtantia*,

ſtantia, who eſpouſed his Intereſt, was enabled to recover ſeveral of the Towns he had loſt, and to make Head againſt his Invader.

Soon after, the two Monarchs, before there was any deciſive Action, came to a Parley; and a Suſpenſion of Arms was agreed to for the two ſubſequent Years.

2. King *John* thereupon returning into *England*, invaded *Scotland*; and, having made a conſiderable Slaughter there, obliged the King of *Scots* to ſubmit to his ſuperior Power.

3. After that, he went over into *Ireland*, which had revolted; but ſoon reduced thoſe Rebels to Obedience.

4. Soon after, he was equally ſucceſsful in his Conteſts with the *Welch*; for he carried away no leſs than 28 Youths of their prime Nobility as Hoſtages; and upon an Inſurrection, conſequent thereupon, he put them all to Death.

5. Having thus quelled that Rebellion, he went once more over to *France*, and entered into a War with *Lewis*, the Son of *Philip*; wherein proving very unſucceſsful, he patched up a Peace with him on the beſt Terms he could procure.

6. On his Return home, he determined to vent his Reſentment on his own Subjects; for the *Engliſh* Barons, not being able to procure from the King thoſe Favours which they requeſted, had Recourſe to Arms; and his Majeſty, finding himſelf too weak to withſtand them,

them, granted at once whatever they demanded.

From this glorious Stand of the Barons aroſe the famous *Magna Charta*, eſteemed the Foundation of the *Engliſh* Liberty, which was ſigned in a Meadow, called *Running Mead*, betwixt *Windſor* and *Stanes*.

7. King *John*, however, not long afterwards, raiſed an Army, and ſo far prevailed over the Barons, that he over-ran all *England*, and reduced all the Caſtles and Fortreſſes belonging to the confederated Nobles entirely to Ruins.

8. Upon this, the Barons invited *Lewis*, the Son of *Philip* King of *France*, to come over to *England*, and promiſed him, on his Aſſiſtance, to give him the Crown.

Lewis accepting of this Offer, came over to *England* with a Fleet of 600 Sail, and, being joined by the Nobility, marched to *London*; and at the very ſame Time, the King of *Scotland* entered the Northern Parts with a numerous Army.

King *John*, indeed, collected what Forces he could, in order to make a freſh Effort; but, to his no ſmall Mortification, moſt of his Carriages were left in the Fens, as they were paſſing betwixt *Lynn* and *Boſton*.

His violent Conteſts with the Pope *at ſundry Times, and the mortifying Effects of thoſe ſuperſtitious Diſſentions.*

1. King *John*, having ſhewn no kind Inclination towards the *Clergy*, the *Pope*, in Re-

venge, took the Opportunity of his Troubles, and in the Year 1208, put his Kingdom under an Interdict, whereupon all Divine Service ceased for a Time. *John* thereupon, (by Way of Retaliation) confiscated the Lands and Goods of all such of the Clergy as obeyed that Interdict, and banished the Bishops.

2. In the Year 1209, the *Pope* excommunicated King *John*, and required all his Subjects to abandon him.

3. In 1211, his *Holiness* absolved the King's Subjects from their Allegiance to him, and required them to avoid both his Presence and Conversation.

4. In the Year 1212, the *Pope* proceeded to depose King *John*, and gave his Kingdom to the *French* King.

5. Upon the *French* King's making great Preparations to invade *England*, King *John*, out of Policy, it is imagined, rather than Weakness, submitted in 1213 to the *Pope*'s Terms, in order to procure his Absolution, (the Thunder of the *Romish* Court, in those Days of Superstition having tended greatly towards the Alienation of his Subjects Love and Affection from him) which were, that he should hold his Kingdom as tributary to him at the yearly Rent of 1000 Marks.

Memorandum.

By this shameful Submission, *England* became tributary to a Pack of foreign Priests, who

who afterwards made an inſolent Uſe of this *Monarch's Foible.*

6. In the Year 1214, King *John*, in a ſolemn Aſſembly of both the Clergy and Laity, confirmed the Reſignation he had before made of his Dominions to the *Pope*, and reſigned his Crown in Form to one *Randulph*, then Legate to his *Holineſs*, who, in an inſolent and haughty Manner, returned it to him again as a Vaſſal to his Maſter.

7. And laſtly, having thus reconciled himſelf to the *Pope*, and the Barons of *England*, in the Year 1215, having obliged him to confirm their *Magna Charta*, King *John* prevailed on him, not only to make that great *Charter* void, but to aid and aſſiſt him in his Wars againſt the *Barons*; and his *Holineſs* did, accordingly, interdict all thoſe *Barons*, and their Adherents. Thoſe *Barons*, however, proving ſucceſsful in their laſt Struggles with their Sovereign, (as has been before hinted) it is thought by ſome Hiſtorians, that the Mortifications and Diſappointments which he then met with were the Cauſe of his Sickneſs, and ſoon after of his Death.

His Marriages.

1. He inter-married firſt with *Alice*, one of the Daughters and Co-heirs of *Humbert*, Earl of *Maurienne*; with whom he was to have her Father's Dominions for her Portion; but all thoſe Expectations were fruſtrated

by her untimely Death, and the ſecond Marriage of her Father.

2. He inter-married afterwards with *Iſabel*, Daughter, and Co-heir to *William* Earl of *Glouceſter*; but by her he had no Iſſue.

3. Sometime after he procured a Divorce, under Pretence of Conſanguinity in the third Degree; and thereupon took to Wife *Iſabel*, the Daughter, and Heir of *Aymer*, Earl of *Angouleſme*, who ſeemed to retain a real Affection for him.

His Iſſue Male by this laſt Wife.

By this Queen he had Iſſue

1. *Henry*, his eldeſt Son, who ſucceeded him in his Kingdom, by the Name of *Henry* the IIId; who was born on the firſt Day of *October*, in the Year 1207. And,

2. *Richard*, who was born in the Year 1209, being the tenth Year of his Father's Reign; and elected King of the *Romans* in the Year 1256.

His Iſſue Female by this laſt Wife.

1. *Joan*, married to *Alexander* II, then King of *Scotland*.

2. *Eleanor*, married to *William Marſhal*, the younger Earl of *Pembroke*. And,

3. *Iſabel*, married to the Emperor *Frederic* II.

Note. Beſides theſe, King *John* had five natural Sons, and two Daughters.

Re-

Remarkable Accidents in this Reign.

1. One *Hugh de Bonis*, coming to aid King *John* with a numerous Army from *Bretagne* and *Flanders*, they were all caſt away.
2. In this Reign, (according to *Baker*) there were extraordinary Thunders and Lightnings, with Hail-ſtones as big as Turkey's Eggs; and a great Variety of Figures ſeen in monſtrous Shapes.
3. In the 6th Year of his Reign, there was a hard Froſt, that held through *January*, *February*, and *March*; by which Means, Corn, at that Time, roſe from One Shilling to 13 *s.* 4 *d.* per Quarter.
4. About his 10th Year, *London-Bridge*, which till then had been all Timber-work, was built entirely with Stone; and has continued ſo to this Day, with only frequent Repairs.
5. And in the Year following, great Part of the City of *London* was burnt down.

Memorandum.

It was in this Reign, that the *Mayor* and two *Sheriffs* of *London* were firſt elected.

Taxes in this *Reign.*

1. In the Year 1199, he had a Scutage of two Marks of every Knight's Fee.
2. In the Year 1200, he had 3 *s.* of every Plow-Land.
3. In the Year 1201, he had two Marks of every Knight's Fee, who had Licence to ſtay at home.

4. In 1203, he took a ſeventh Part of all thoſe Earls and Barons Goods who left him in *Normandy*.

5. At a Parliament in 1204, a Scutage of two Marks and a half was granted him on every Knight's Fee.

6. In 1205, he levied a vaſt Sum of Money upon the Earls and Barons, who refuſed to follow him beyond-ſea.

7. In 1207, he took a 13th Part of all Moveables, as well of Laics as Eccleſiaſtics.

8. In 1210, he forced from the Abbies and Monaſteries no leſs than 140,000 *l.*

9 In 1211, he had two Marks Scutage of every Knight's Fee.

10. And laſtly, in 1214, he took three Marks of every Knight's Fee, who was not perſonally preſent with him at *Poitou*.

His *Death* and *Burial*.

On the 19th of *October*, 1216, he is ſaid, by ſome Hiſtorians, to have died with Grief, on Account of the Loſſes and Diſappointments which he met with in his laſt Conteſts with the Barons of *England* between *Lynn* and *Boſton*, as has been before hinted: But, according to Others, by eating of Peaches too freely, and drinking new Ale at the Abbey of *Swineſtead*. Others again, inſiſt that he was poiſoned by a Monk: But tho' it be ſomewhat uncertain whether he died a natural or violent Death, it is well known, that he was, ſoon after his Deceaſe, conveyed from that Abbey to *Newark*, where

where he was interred, in the 50th Year of his Age; having reigned 17 Years, 6 Months, and 13 Days.

His Character.

As to this Monarch's perſonal Character, we are informed, that he was moderately tall, tho' peculiarly fond of little Men; but for what Reaſon is hard to determine. He was ſomewhat corpulent likewiſe; but of a ſour, moroſe Countenance, and a various uncertain Temper. Sometimes he would ſeem extremely religious, and at other Times, ſcarcely a Chriſtian. He was equally rapacious in the Acquiſition of Money, and profuſe to the laſt Degree in ſquandering it idly away. As he oppoſed both the *Prieſts* and the *Barons*, he was obliged, as we have before ſhewn, to truckle to Both, as Occaſion offered.

Upon the Whole, it is remarked by authentic Hiſtorians, that he neither came to the Crown with Juſtice, nor held it with Honour, nor left it in Peace.

HENRY III. *surnamed of* Winchester, *twenty-eighth King of* England. *From* 1216 *to* 1272.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verses.

This King chief Note in Hiſtory does gain
From civil Diſcords, and the longeſt Reign:
Fickle and weak, he ſaw his Crown juſt gone;
Yet, dying, left it to his warlike Son.

HENRY III. ſurnamed of *Wincheſter*, the XXVIIIth King of *England*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors of the *Weſt*.	
Honorius III.	1216.	*Otho* IV.	1208.
Gregory IX.	1227.	*Frederic* II.	1212.
Celeſtin IV.	1241.	*French* Emperors of *Conſtant*.	
Innocent IV.	1243.	*Henry* I.	1206.
Alexander IV.	1254.	*Peter* II.	1217.
Urban IV.	1261.	*Rob. de Cour.*	1221.
Clement IV.	1261.	*Baldwin* II.	1237.
Emperors of the *Eaſt*.		Kings of *France*.	
Theodorus I.	1204.	*Philip* II.	1180.
John III.	1222.	*Lewis* VIII.	1223.
Theodore II.	1225.	St. *Lewis*	1226.
John IV.	1259.	*Philip* III.	1270.
Michael VIII.	1259.		

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS Prince was the eldeſt Son of King *John* and Queen *Iſabel*, and born at *Wincheſter* in the 8th Year of his Father's Reign, *viz.* on the 1ſt of *October*, 1207.

His Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

When he was about 9 Years of Age, *viz.* in the Year 1216, he ſucceeded his Father, notwithſtanding

withſtanding *Eleanor*, the Siſter of Prince *Arthur*, was then living, and was firſt crowned at *Glouceſter*, on the 28th Day of *October*; and on the 17th of *May*, 1219, was again crowned at *Weſtminſter*.

His Education.

During his Minority, the Adminiſtration of the Government was given to *William Marſhall*, the valiant Earl of *Pembroke*, who acted therein, and in the Capacity of Tutor to the young Prince, till the Year 1219, at which Time he died.

Upon his Deceaſe, one *Peter de Rupibus*, then Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, ſucceeded him as Guardian to the King, and Protector of the Kingdom.

In the Year 1217, that is to ſay, two Years before his firſt Tutor's Deceaſe, ſeveral of the *Engliſh* Barons, who had ſworn Allegiance to *Lewis* the then *Dauphin* of *France*, went over to *Henry*, as their lawful Sovereign, in Hopes of prevailing on his Youth to take more ſalutary Meaſures than his Father had done before him.

In the mean Time, *Lewis* and his Adherents marched towards *London* with an Army of 20,000 Men, and in their Way took Poſſeſſion of ſeveral ſtrong Holds. The Caſtle of *Lincoln*, however, was defended againſt them by a Lady, named *Philippa*, a Heroine, of whom Hiſtory has taken but very little Notice, with ſo much Intrepidity and good Succeſs, that, before

before the *French* could gain any Advantage, the young King's Army came up to her Relief; by whom they were totally defeated.

Lewis, notwithſtanding this Diſappointment, ſent for more Forces out of *France*; but moſt of that Reinforcement happening to be drowned in their Paſſage, he was reduced to the Neceſſity of coming to a Compromiſe, and of promiſing, upon the Receipt of 15,000, not only to return home, but to reſtore thoſe Dominions in *France* which belonged to the *Engliſh*.

Upon this Expulſion of *Lewis*, the young King was obliged to renew upon Oath the great Charter which had been given, and broken by his Father; and to grant the People ſuch other Liberties as they thought requiſite to be demanded.

His firſt Military Action *after his coming of Age.*

Having, in 1227, declared himſelf of Age, he ſoon after went over to *France*; but returned without Succeſs, to the Diſgrace of his Arms; and bringing back with him ſeveral Foreigners, whom he promoted, the Barons (highly provoked at that Affront, and ſome others of the like Nature) entered into a Combination againſt him, and ventured to lay their Grievances before him. Inſtead of liſtening, however, to their juſt Complaints, as he ought to have done, he raiſed an Army of Foreigners againſt them, and obliged many of them to fly to *Leoline*, then Prince of *Wales*.

His

His second Military Action.

He pursued them to the *Welsh* Borders, it is true; but returned from thence with no more Honour than what he had gained in his *French* Expedition.

Upon this Disappointment, a Parliament being called, the King was prevailed on, not only to be reconciled to the Barons, but to restore them to their Honour, and remove the Foreigners from his Court.

This Reconciliation, however, was but of short Continuance; for he was so weak as to caress his favourite Foreigners again, upon which the Barons again revolted.

His third Military Action.

That Storm being in some Measure appeased, he undertook another Expedition to *France*, which proved as fruitless as the Former, and was attended with equal Disgrace.

His fourth Military Action.

In Hopes of making himself popular, and with a professed Design to deliver the Commonality from the Oppression of the Barons, who acted as Tyrants over them, an open War was begun at Home, and a decisive Battle was fought near *Lewes* in *Sussex*, in which the King's Army was totally defeated; and himself, his Son, his Brother, then King of the *Romans*, who came to his Aid and Assistance, and divers other illustrious Personages, were taken Prisoners.

Prince

Prince *Edward*, however, ſome Time afterwards, making his Eſcape from his Keepers, and joining ſome Forces with the Earl of *Glouceſter*, they marched againſt the Earl of *Leiceſter*, the Barons Protector, defeated, and ſlew him; upon which, the King was happily ſet at Liberty, and *Leiceſter*'s Adherents were by Parliament attainted. Peace, however, was not perfectly reſtored till Prince *Edward*, with many Others undertook the *Croiſade*, and went to the *Holy Land*.

His weak Actions, *and* Extortions.

1. In the Year 1227, at which Time the young Prince declared himſelf of Age, he cancelled, not only the *Great Charter*, but the *Charter* of the *Foreſt*, which in his Minority he had confirmed.

2. Upon the ſecond Revolt of the *Barons*, he drove a great Number of them into Exile, and ſeized the rich Effects and Eſtates of as many more.

3. At the Recommendation of the Pope, to whom he as tamely ſubmitted as his Father, he unjuſtly and rigorouſly depreſt the *Engliſh* Clergy, and conferred the moſt valuable Benefices upon Strangers.

4. Upon his laſt Return from *France*, almoſt pennileſs, and in Diſgrace, he extorted an immenſe Sum of Money from the *Jews*, which he ſquandered away as idly, as he raiſed it unjuſtly.

5. He

5. He attempted to lay hold of the Eccleſiaſtical Revenues, but upon the Pope's Menaces, to whom he again ſubmitted, a Reconciliation enſued.

His Marriage.

He inter-married, in the Year 1236, with the Lady *Eleanor*, ſecond Daughter to *Raymond*, Earl of *Provence*.

His Iſſue Male.

By this Queen he had ſix Sons, four of whom, namely, *Richard*, *John*, *William*, and *Henry*, who died in their Childhood, *Edward*, his Succeſſor, and *Edmund*, the titular King of *Scots*.

His Iſſue Female.

1. *Margaret*, who inter-married with *Alexander*, King of the *Scots*.

2. *Katharine*, who died young. And,

3. *Beatrice*, who inter-married with *John*, the firſt Duke of *Britany*.

Note, It is generally allowed, that he had no natural Children.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In the 7th Year of his Reign, there appeared 5 Suns at one Time.

2. At one Time in his Reign, there was ſo great a Famine, that the People were reduced to the Neceſſity, not only of eating unclean Animals, but the very Bark of Trees. In *London* only, 20,000 are ſaid to be ſtarved to Death.

3. At

3. At another Time, the Sea did not flow to its uſual Height for 5 Days ſucceſſively.
4. In his 10th Year, he granted the Citizens of *London* Licence to hunt within a certain Diſtance, and to paſs Toll-free throughout *England*.
5. In his 15th Year, there was one continued Thunder, which laſted about a Fortnight.
6. In his 30th Year, he enlarged, and rebuilt the Church of St. *Peter* at *Weſtminſter*.
7. In his 53d Year, the *Thames* was frozen from St. *Andrew*'s Day to *Candlemaſs*.
8. And laſtly, in his 55th Year, *Bow-Steeple* fell down, and did a great deal of Damage.

His Death *and* Burial.

In the Year 1272, King *Henry* died, in the 65th Year of his Age, having reigned 56 Years, and 20 Days.

Note. This was the longeſt of all the Reigns in the Hiſtory of *England*.

He was buried on the 12th of *November* in *Weſtminſter* Abbey, where his magnificent Monument is ſtill to be ſeen almoſt entire, which was erected by his Son, *Edward* I. near that of *Edward*, the *Confeſſor*.

His Character.

He was a Man of no bright Parts, fickle and unconſtant; greedy of Money, and yet profuſe; an Extortioner, and yet little better for the immenſe Sums that he levied. He ne-

ver diſtinguiſhed himſelf by any heroic Action. He was Praiſe-worthy, however, for his Clemency and Beneficence; and for his generous Contempt of all private and illicit Amours.

EDWARD

EDWARD I. *surnamed* Long-shanks, *Lord of* Ireland, *and Duke of* Aquitaine, XXIX*th King of* England. *From* 1272 *to* 1307.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verses.

Far distant, when acknowledg'd, Edward *came,*
Assum'd the Crown, and rul'd with matchless Fame;
Welsh, Scotch *he conquer'd; made and unmade Kings;*
Reform'd the Law, and clipt the Clergy's Wings.

EDWARD I. ſurnamed *Longſhanks*, Lord of *Ireland*, and Duke of *Aquitaine*, XXIXth King of *England*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors of the *Eaſt*.	
Gregory X.	1271.	*Michael* VIII.	1259.
Innocent V.	1276.	*Andronicus* II.	1283.
Adrian V.	1276.	Emperors of the *Weſt*.	
John XXI.	1276.	*Frederic* II.	1212.
Nicholas III.	1277.	*Rodolphus* I.	1273.
Martin IV.	1281.	*Adol.* of *Naſſau*.	1291.
Honorius IV.	1285.	*Albert* I.	1298.
Nicholas IV.	1288.	Kings of *France*.	
Celeſtin V.	1294.	*Philip* III.	1270.
Boniface VIII.	1294.	*Philip* IV.	1285.
Benedict IX.	1303.		
Clement V.	1305.		

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS Prince was the eldeſt Son of King *Henry* III. by his Wife *Eleanor* of *Provence*, and was born at *Weſtminſter* on the 17th of *June*, in the Year 1239. He was likewiſe ſtiled Lord of *Ireland*, and Duke of *Aquitaine*.

His

His Proclamation.

Notwithſtanding, at the Deceaſe of his Father in the Year 1272, he was in the *Holy Land*; and notwithſtanding the Miniſtry in *England* knew not whether he was living or not; yet they proclaimed him King, and proper Perſons were choſen for the Adminiſtration of all public Affairs during his Abſence.

His Coronation.

Having received News of his Father's Death, whilſt he was in *Sicily*, on his Return home, in the Year 1273, he went directly from thence to *France*. Having done Homage there to the *French* King for the Lands holden of him, he haſtened to *England*, and arrived ſafe there in *July* 1274; and on the 19th of *Auguſt* then next enſuing, he was crowned with his Queen *Eleanor* at *Weſtminſter*, with great Pomp and Solemnity.

His Tranſactions *at Home.*

His firſt Care was to raiſe Money, the *Exchequer* being perfectly exhauſted through the Profuſion of the preceding Reign. In order thereto, about the Year 1275,

1. He laid ſeveral heavy Impoſitions upon the Clergy, and deprived ſeveral of the Monaſteries of their Privileges.

2. In 1276, he procured the firſt Statute of *Mortmain* to be enacted.

3. In 1277, he brought *Wales* under a very heavy Tribute.

4. He

4. He baniſhed the *Jews* to the Number of about 15,000, and ſeized upon all their Effects.

5. Finding his Miniſtry and Judges guilty of groſs Corruption, in 1289 he diſplaced moſt of them, and fined them in large Sums.

His warlike Exploits *Abroad.*

1. In 1284, he quarrelled with *Leoline*, then Prince of *Wales*, and having ſlain him in Battle, he ordered his Head to be cut off, and expoſed to public View in the Tower of *London*, for having ſupported the diſaffected *Engliſh*, and given Aſſiſtance to the King of *Scotland*. Soon afterwards his Brother *David* being taken, K. *Edward* ordered him to be executed as a common Malefactor.

2. The Line of *Britiſh* Princes ending in *David*, *Edward* ſoon after cauſed his Queen, who was then big with Child, to go and be delivered in the Caſtle of *Caernarvon*, and declared the Son, who was then born of her, Prince of *Wales*, who was the firſt that enjoyed that Title, as being a Native of the Country: And from that Time to this, the Title of Prince of *Wales* has been always borne by the eldeſt Sons of the Kings of *England*.

3. In 1296, he entered into his firſt War againſt the *Scots*. In this he gained great Honour, and carried the *Engliſh* Army farther into that Country than they ever penetrated before or ſince, except under the Duke of *Cumberland*, when he quelled the late Rebellion. In this Engagement he killed 40,000 *Scots*, and took

took the three following important Places, namely *Berwick*, *Dunbar*, and *Edinburgh*.

4. In 1298, he obtained another ſignal Victory over the *Scots*, and killed no leſs than 40,000 of them.

5. In 1300, he marched a third Time againſt the *Scots*; but they putting themſelves under the Protection of the Pope, in 1302, they gained an Advantage over the King's Army.

6. In the Year 1303, however, *Edward* made a fourth Expedition into *Scotland*; and in 1304, obliged their Nobility to ſubmit to his ſuperior Power; and Sir *William Wallace*, being the principal Promoter of that Inſurrection, was tried by the *Engliſh* Laws in 1305, condemned, and executed as a Traitor.

7. In 1306, upon a freſh Rebellion of the *Scots*, King *Edward* ſent an Army into *Scotland*, and took ſeveral of their Nobles Priſoners.

His Marriages.

1. He firſt inter-married with *Eleanor*, the Daughter of *Ferdinando*, the IIId King of *Spain*.

His Iſſue Male by that Venter.

1. *John*, 2. *Henry*, and 3d *Alphonſo*; but they all died young. His 4th Son was *Edward*, afterwards King *Edward* II.

His Iſſue Female by the ſame Venter.

By her he had nine Daughters, likewiſe, two of whom died in their Infancy. The Names of

of the other seven were *Eleanor*, *Joan*, *Margaret*, *Alice*, *Beatrix*, *Mary*, and *Elizabeth*.

2. In the Year 1300, he inter-married with *Margaret*, the *French* King's Sister, by whom he had two Sons, *viz.* *Thomas*, afterwards Earl of *Norfolk*, and *Edmund*, afterwards Earl of *Kent*; and one Daughter, named *Eleanor*.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In the 2d Year of his Reign, there was a prodigious Rot among the Sheep, which continued to make dreadful Havock for five and twenty Years without Intermission.

2. In his 15th Year, Wheat sold for 3 *s.* 4 *d.* per Quarter; and the next Year rose to 1 *s.* 6 *d.* per Bushel, or 12 *s.* per Quarter, and so continued rising till it amounted at last to One Pound per Quarter.

3. In his 21st Year, a great Part of the Town of *Cambridge* was reduced to Ruins by Fire.

4. In his 27th Year, his own Palace at *Westminster*, and the Monastery thereto adjoining, were destroyed by Fire also.

5. Towards the Close of his Reign, Provisions were so remarkably cheap, that a fat Cock was sold for three Half-pence, and two Pullets for the same Money.

His Death *and* Burial.

In the Year 1307, he was seized with a Dysentery, at *Burgh* upon *Sands*, in his last Expedition to *Scotland*, in the 68th Year of his Age, and in the 35th Year of his Reign, of which Di-

Diſtemper he died, and was interred on the 7th of *July*, then next following, at the Head of his Father's Monument, in the Chapel of *Edward the Confeſſor*, in *Weſtminſter-Abbey*.

His Character.

He was extremely well ſhaped, and almoſt an Head taller than the Generality of Men. He would have been perfect in his Form, had his Legs, which were a little too long, been proportioned to the Reſt of his Body. Upon this Account the Surname of *Long-ſhanks* was given him.

He had the Honour, and not without Juſtice, of being called the *Engliſh Juſtinian*, on Account of the ſignal Services which he did to our Laws: For more Acts, in regard to the Good of the Subjects, paſſed in his Reign than in any of his Predeceſſors. He reduced, likewiſe, the Laws into a Syſtem, or Body; whereas, before, they were diſperſed, and known but to a very Few.

In ſhort, he was an excellent King, an indulgent Father, a formidable Enemy, and an intrepid General. He was remarkable for his Chaſtity, Juſtice, Prudence and Moderation.

His Affection for the *Holy Land* was ſo great, that he gave Orders for the carrying of his Heart thither, after his Deceaſe, and left 32,000 Pounds Sterling, for the Holy Sepulchre.

And, laſtly, in his expiring Moments, he

horted the King, his Son, to continue the War with *Scotland*; and added the following remarkable Charge; "Let my Bones be carried before you; for I am certain, the Rebels will never care to ſtand the Sight of them."

EDWARD

EDWARD II. *Or* Edward *of* Caernarvon, *Lord of* Ireland, *and Duke of* Aquitaine, *and the* XXXth *King of* England, *from* 1307 *to* 1327.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Of Perſon comely, but of Genius mean,
Oppos'd by Faction, and a faithleſs Queen;
For Crimes of Fav'rites harraſs'd and dethron'd;
Oppreſs'd by Murd'rers poor Caernarvon *groan'd.*

EDWARD II. *or* EDWARD *of* CAERNARVON, *Lord of* Ireland, *and Duke of* Aquitaine, *the* XXXth *King of* England.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Kings of *France*.	
Clement V.	1305.	*Henry* VII.	1308.
John XXII.	1316.	*Frederic* III.	1314.
Emperor of the *East*.		*Phillip* IV.	1285.
Andronicus II.	1278.	*Lewis* X.	1314.
Emperors of the *West*.		*Philip* V.	1316.
Albert I.	1278.	*Charles* IV.	1322.

His Birth and *Parentage*.

THIS Prince was the third Son of King *Edward* I. by Queen *Eleanor* of *Caſtile*, his firſt Wife. He had his Surname from *Caernarvon*, in *North Wales*, the Place where, by particular Appointment of his Father, the Queen was delivered of him on the 25th of *April*, 1284.

His firſt weak Actions *at Home*.

1. He broke the three poſitive Commands, enjoined him by his Father's Will.

2. He recalled *Gaviſton* from Baniſhment, and gratified him with 30,000*l.* which Sum was intended for the *Holy War*.

3. He

3. He impriſoned *Walter de Langton*, Biſhop of *Cheſter*, then Lord Treaſurer, who was at the Time of his being ſeized very buſily employed in providing for his Father's Funeral.

4. No ſooner was that Ceremony performed, but the young King paſſed over, with his favourite *Gaveſton*, to *Bologne*, where his Nuptials with *Iſabella*, Daughter of *Philip* IV. furnamed *Le Beu*, King of *France*, a Lady of 12 Years of Age only, were ſolemnized on the 28th of *January* 1307, and graced with the Preſence of four Kings and three Queens.

Their Coronation *in England.*

No ſooner were theſe Nuptials thus conſummated, but he and his Queen arrived ſafely in *England*, in the Month of *February* then next following, and both were, on the 24th Day of the ſame Month, crowned at *Weſtminſter* by *Henry*, then Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, with great Pomp and Solemnity.

His military Tranſactions *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. Having, in the Year 1310, recalled *Gaveſton* from Baniſhment, and by that imprudent and partial Action, given high Diſguſt to all the Nobility in general, they, in the Year 1311, entered into Conſpiracy againſt him; whereupon the King planted *Gaveſton* in *Scarborough-Caſtle*, and furniſhed him with the beſt Forces he could raiſe for his Defence.

2. In the Year 1312, the Nobility beſieged *Gaveſton* in that ſtrong Hold, and ſoon after

took him; and notwithſtanding all the King's Entreaties for his Life, they beheaded him at *Blacklow*, in *Warwickſhire*.

3. The Barons, after this, proceeded with a large Force to *Dunſtable*, in their Way to *London*; but a Reconciliation enſued; and by the Mediation of the Queen, the Biſhops, *&c.* he granted a general Pardon to all thoſe who were inſtrumental in the Decapitation of his darling Courtier.

4. In the Year 1313, he entered into a War with the *Scots*; but the King and the Army were at length defeated at *Sterling*, in the Year 1314. In the Year 1318, the *Scots* took *Berwick*; and in the Year following, the King entered into a Truce with them for two Years.

5. In the Year 1320, the King, having encouraged the two *Spencers*, Father and Son, as ſanguinely as he had done *Gaveſton* before, and finding that he had thereby not only given great Diſguſt to his Nobles, but to the Queen likewiſe, he commenced a War with the Lords, in the Year 1321, and reverſed the Baniſhment of the *Spencers*.

6. In the Year 1324, the Queen, being diſobliged by the *Spencers*, took Part with the Lords againſt the King; and afterwards going into *France*, and raiſing an Army there, ſhe returned to *England* in the Year 1326: And in the Month of *September*, landing in *Eſſex*, ſhe drove the King into *Wales*, and took the elder *Spencer* at *Briſtol*, where ſhe hanged him up directly.

directly. Soon after, finding the King concealed with the younger *Spencer* in *Wales*, she took them Both; and *Spencer* was hanged and quartered without any formal Trial.

In the Year 1327, the Queen, returning to *London* with her Son *Edward*, a Parliament was called in the King and Queen's Name, where six Articles were drawn up against him for Mal-Administration.

These Articles were sent to the King by the Nobility, who, by their Deputies, renounced all Fealty and Homage to him.

They, moreover, made Choice of the young Prince for their King, declaring the Father incapable of sitting at the Helm of Government; and, in a Word, deposed him, and obliged him to make a formal Resignation of the Crown to his Son.

After this, he was treated by his Consort, and her Adherents, with all the Marks of Ignominy and Contempt; and when they imagined they had sufficiently mortified him, he was conveyed to *Berkley-castle*, and from thence to *Corse-castle*, where he continued confined to the Hour of his untimely Death.

His Marriage, *and* Issue *Male and Female.*

His Wife (as we have hinted before) was *Isabel*, the Daughter of *Philip* IV. King of *France*, who lived his Queen 20 Years, and his Widow 30. By her he had the following Issue:

1. *Edward*, his eldeſt Son, who was his immediate Succeſſor.

2. *John*, ſurnamed of *Eltham*, and afterwards Earl of *Cornwall*, who died unmarried.

3. *Joan*, his Daughter, who intermarried with *David*, Prince of *Scotland*. And,

3. *Eleanor*, who was the ſecond Wife of *Reynold*, the ſecond Earl of *Geldres*.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this King's Reign.*

1. The greateſt Earthquake that had ever been felt in *England*.

2. In his 8th Year, there was ſo great a Famine, that Criminals in Priſon are reported to have torne in Pieces thoſe that were freſh brought in, and eat them half alive.

3. Upon digging at St. *Paul's*, ſome Time in the ſame Reign, the Heads of above 100 Oxen were thrown up, from whence it was concluded, by ſome Antiquaries, that the Temple of *Diana* had formerly ſtood in the Place which is now occupied by that Cathedral. And,

4. The Order of *Knights-Templars*, being accuſed of the moſt enormous Crimes, were ſuppreſſed, about the ſame Time, all over *Europe*, by a general Agreement among the Chriſtian Princes.

His Death *and* Burial.

He had not been in *Corſe-caſtle* long, before ſome Aſſaſſins covered him with a Heap of Feather-beds; and at the ſame Time, run a red hot Iron up his Fundament through a Pipe, that

that there might be no external Mark of an unnatural Death. This inhuman Murder was committed in the 43d Year of his Age, when he had reigned ſomewhat above 19 Years and an Half. There is a Monument for him in the Cathedral of *Glouceſter*, but without any Inſcription. It was erected by his Son *Edward* the IIId, and ſeems a curious Piece of *Gothic* Workmanſhip.

Memorandum.

The two wicked and inhuman Aſſaſſins, who carried into Execution the helliſh Contrivance of one *Adam de Orreton*, then Biſhop of *Hereford* and (as was ſuppoſed) with the Connivance of the Queen, in Expectation of a large Reward, were his two Keepers, *Maltravers* and *Gourney*; but the Queen and Biſhop diſavowing the Fact, they both were obliged to fly beyond-ſea: *Gourney* into *France*, where about three Years afterwards he was taken, and beheaded at Sea, in his Return for *England*; and *Maltravers* into *Germany*, where he had the Grace to repent; but lived ever after in ſuch a miſerable Manner, that he ſtood in Want even of the common Neceſſaries of Life.

His Character.

As to his Perſon, he was exceedingly handſome and well-ſhaped; and his Air was ſo majeſtic, that wherever he went, he commanded Reſpect; but as to his Qualities, he

was

was no Soldier, no Politician, nor any Way zealous for the Good of his Country: He had neither Genius to concert, nor Resolution sufficient to go through with any Undertaking of Importance.

EDWARD

EDWARD III. *or* EDWARD of WINDSOR, *the* XXXIst *King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland, *from* 1327 *to* 1377.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Triumphant Edward, *the* Black Prince's *Sire,*
In Peace, in War, we honour and admire;
France *conquer'd,* Scots *ſubdu'd, preſerve his Name;*
But his laſt Days eclips'd his former Fame.

EDWARD III. or EDWARD of WINDSOR, the XXXIſt King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Kings of *England*.	
Clement V.	1305.	*Henry* VII.	1308.
John XXII.	1316.	*Frederic* III.	1314.
Emperor of the *Eaſt*.		Kings of *France*.	
Andronicus II.	1278.	*Philip* IV.	1285.
Emperors of the *Weſt*.		*Lewis* X.	1314.
Albert I.	1278.	*Philip* V.	1316.
		Charles IV.	1322.

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS heroic Prince was the eldeſt Son of King *Edward* II. and *Iſabel* his Royal Conſort. He was born in *Windſor-caſtle*, from whence he derived his Surname, on the 13th of *November* 1312 in the 6th Year of his Father's Reign.

His Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

Soon after his Return from *France*, where he had been to do Homage to that King for the Lands he had either had, or ought to have held in that Kingdom, he was unanimouſly elected *Cuſtos* of *England*, his Father being, at that Time, fled into *Wales*; and not long after followed his Father's Reſignation, and his own Corona-

Coronation, which was performed at *Weſtminſter* on the 1ſt of *February* 1327, in the 15th Year of his Age, not at the Death, but on the Depoſition of his Father, as above related.

His Education.

The then Archbiſhop of *Canterbury* and 11 others of the Nobility were appointed Guardians to the young King; but the Queen and her Minion *Mortimer* took upon themſelves the Adminiſtration of the Government.

His Marriage.

In the Year 1328, he intermarried with *Philippa* (the 3d Daughter of *William* Earl of *Hanault*) who was crowned at *Weſtminſter* ſoon after.

His remarkable Tranſactions *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. This Prince, on his attaining to the 18th Year of his Age, called a Parliament, wherein he totally ſuppreſſed the Power of his Mother and *Mortimer*; by which Means, the Queen was reduced from her former large Poſſeſſions to the Maintenance only of 1000*l. per Annum*; and the Latter, being accuſed of the late King's Death; of the diſhonourable Peace with the *Scots*; of waſting the Treaſure of the Kingdom; and laſtly of being too familiar with the Queen, for which he was condemned; and was ſent up to *London*, and hanged at the Elms in *Smithfield*.

2. In

2. In the Year 1333, King *Edward* defeated the *Scots*, and took *Berwick*.

3. In 1338, he entered into a War with *France*, and in the Year following invaded it.

4. In 1341, he quartered the Arms of *England* with those of *France*; and assumed the Motto *Dieu et mon Droit*. The same Year he obtained, in Person, a complete Victory over the *French* at Sea; took and sunk all their Ships; and killed no less than 30,000 Men. After that, he entered *France* with an Army; but a Truce was concluded thereupon for 12 Months, and afterwards for three Years.

5. In 1344, King *Edward* restored the Ceremony of King *Arthur*'s Round-table; in Imitation whereof, he erected a Table of 200 Feet Diameter at *Windsor*.

6. In 1345, the King obtained another complete Victory over the *French* at *Cressy*; amongst whom were slain the King's Brother, the King of *Bohemia*, and 15 Princes of the best Quality in that Kingdom: And in all, the Number amounted to no less than 30,000.

7. In 1349, he instituted the Order of the Garter.

8. In the same Year, he obtained a glorious Victory over the *Spaniards*.

9. In the Year 1355, he renewed the War with *France*.

10. In 1356, his Son, the *Black Prince*, obtained a great Victory over the *French* at *Poictiers*;

Poictiers; in which *John*, the then *French* King, and his Son *Philip* were taken Priſoners.

11. In 1356, the Prince made his triumphant Entry into *London*, with King *John* his Priſoner.

12. In 1359, he entered *France* again, marched to the Walls of *Paris*, and ravaged the whole Kingdom; but in 1360, on Account of ſome Thouſands of his Men and Horſes, being killed by a Storm of Thunder and Lightning, he was prevailed on to hearken to Terms of Peace.

13. In 1360, by Virtue of that Treaty, King *John* was ſet at Liberty, after four Years Impriſonment, on his Payment of 500,000 Crowns for his Ranſom.

14. In 1369, the War with *France* was again renewed.

15. In 1373, an Army of 30,000 Men, under the Command of the Duke of *Lancaſter*, marched through *France* from *Calais* to *Bourdeaux*, and ravaged the whole Country.

His Iſſue *Male and Female, by his Queen* Philippa.

1. *Edward* of *Woodſtock*, his eldeſt Son, born the 15th of *July*, 1329.

2. *William* of *Hatfield*, his ſecond Son, born in the Year 1335.

3. *Lionel*, afterwards Duke of *Clarence*, born at *Antwerp*, on the 29th of *November*, 1338.

4. *John* of *Gaunt*, afterwards Earl of *Richmond*,

mond, and Duke of *Lancaster*, born in the Year 1340.

5. *Edmund* of *Langley*, afterwards Earl of *Cambridge*, and Duke of *York*.

6. *William* of *Windsor*, who died young.

7. *Thomas* of *Woodstock*, afterwards Duke of *Glocester*.

He had likewise five Daughters, namely, 1. *Isabel*. 2. *Joan*. 3. *Blanche*. 4. *Mary*. And, 5. *Margaret*.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In the 22d Year of his Reign, a dreadful Pestilence arose in the East and South Parts of the World, and extended itself all over Christendom. In *London* only, which was then small in Comparison to its present State, no less than 57,374 Persons died between the 1st of *January* and the 1st of *July*.

2. In his 35th Year, another Pestilence carried off *Henry*, Duke of *Lancaster*, five Bishops, and a great Number of other Persons of Distinction.

3. In this Reign, there was a hard Frost, that lasted from the Middle of *September* to the Month of *April*.

4. In his 11th Year, there was such Plenty that a Quarter of Wheat was sold for two Shillings, a fat Ox for a Noble, a fat Sheep for Six-pence, a fat Goose for Two-pence, and a fat Pig for a Penny, and other Provisions in Proportion; but in his 27th Year, there was as great a Scarcity, occasioned by

a

a Drought, which laſted from the End of *March* till the End of *July*.

His Death *and* Burial.

This great Monarch, having conquered much, and loſt much, was called out of this World at laſt, in a Kind of Dotage, to the other, after he had reigned 50 Years, four Months, and twenty-eight Days, and lived above 64 Years.

He was interred in *Weſtminſter-Abbey*; and there is a very fine Monument to his Memory on the South-ſide of *Edward the Confeſſor*'s Chapel in the ſaid Abbey. It is compoſed of green Marble; and the King's Effigy, on the Top, is of Copper gilt. His eldeſt Son, the *Black Prince*, has likewiſe a Monument ſtill ſubſiſting in the Cathedral of *Canterbury*.

His Character.

He was brave, wiſe, enterpriſing, ſteady, and magnificent. In Perſon, he was tall, well-ſhaped, and of ſo noble an Aſpect, that his very Looks commanded Veneration. He was affable, humane, obſervant of the Laws and Conſtitution, a Lover of his Subjects; and in fine, juſtly deſerved the Character of an honeſt Man, and a great Prince. He behaved religiouſly, without too great Condeſcenſion to the Clergy: And, 'tis probable, no Objection would have been made to his Piety, had it not been for his illicit Amours with divers Ladies, but more particularly with

Favourite *Alice Piers*, with whom he ſhewed himſelf in Public. If the Characters, however, of Princes were with too much Strictneſs to be examined on this Article, how Few of them, alas! would merit the Surname of Pious!

RICHARD II. *of* Bourdeaux, *the* XXXIId *King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland. *From* 1377 *to* 1399.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Richard, *from valiant Sire and Grandſire ſprung,*
Proves weak, perverſe and raſh; for he was young:
Yet brave, from Rebels did defend his Throne,
And when depos'd, left not his Life alone.

RICHARD II. of *Bourdeaux*, the XXXIId King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors of the *West*.	
Gregory XI.	1370.	*Charles* IV.	1347
Urban VI.	1378.	*Wenceslaus*	1378
Boniface IX.	1389.	Kings of *France*.	
Emperors of the *East*.		*Charles* V.	1364
John VI.	1355.	*Charles* VI.	1380
Emanuel II.	1391.		

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS Prince was the second, but only surviving Child of *Edward* Prince of *Wales*, otherwise called the *Black Prince*, by *Joan*, Countess of *Kent*, his Wife. He was born at *Bourdeaux*, in the Year 1366.

His Education.

This Prince had not fully compleated his 7th Year, when his Grand-father, King *Edward* III. upon his last Expedition into *France* in the Year 1372, constituted him, by Commission, *Custos* of the Kingdom, and his Lieutenant during his Absence, in which Commission he was stiled, *Richard*, Son and Heir-apparent

parent of *Edward*, Prince of *Wales*, and *Aquitaine*, &c.

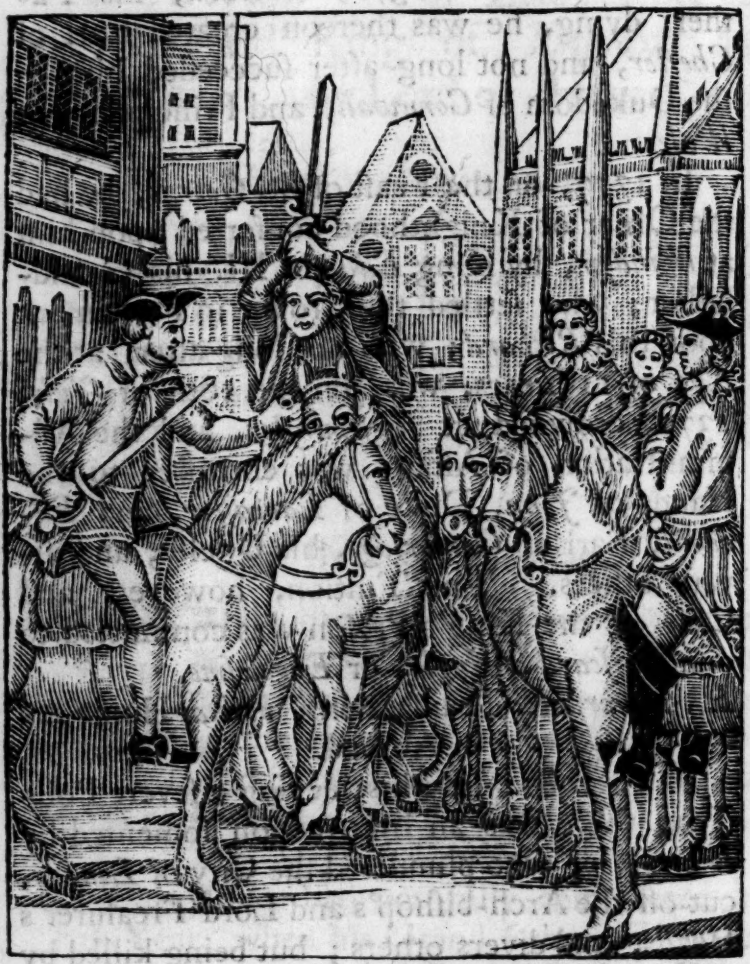
In the Year 1376, *Edward*, his Father, dying, he was thereon created Earl of *Cheſter*, and not long after ſucceeded him in the Dukedom of *Cornwall*, and Principality of *Wales*.

In 1377, on the Feaſt of St. *George*, he had the Order of Knighthood conferred upon him at *Windſor*, by King *Edward* III. his Grandfather; who ſettled the Crown in Parliament upon this *Richard*; who not long after, at the Age of 11 Years, was, on the 16th of *July*, 1377, crowned at *Weſtminſter*, and the Adminiſtration of Affairs was entruſted to the Hands of *John*, Duke of *Lancaſter*, and *Edmond*, Earl of *Cambridge*, his Uncles, and divers others. The Tuition, however, and Care of the King's Perſon was committed to one *Guiſcard d'Angle*, or *Engoleſme*.

His remarkable Tranſactions, *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. In 1381. By his levying a ſevere Poll-Tax, there was an Inſurrection fomented by *Wat Tyler*, who plundered the City of *London*, cut off the Arch-biſhop's and Lord Treaſurer's Heads, and divers others; but being killed by *William Walworth*, then Mayor of *London*, with a Dagger, in *Smithfield*, thoſe Rebels were ſuppreſſed; and from this Occurrence, 'tis ſaid, that the Dagger was added to the City-arms.

WAT TYLER, *killed by* William Walworth, *then Mayor of* London, *in* Smithfield, *and the Insurrection by him fomented, thereupon suppreſſed.*



From vulgar Feuds oft Civil Diſcords riſe,
And Deſolation thro' a City flies:
Here Tyler *and his* Mob *of Wrongs complain;*
But the Arch-rebel *by the* May'r *is ſlain.*

2. In 1382, on the 14th of *January*, the King inter-married with the Lady *Anne*, Daughter to the late Emperor *Charles* IV. and Sister to *Winceſlaus*, King of *Bohemia*.

3. In 1385, the *French* joining with the *Scots* againſt th *Engliſh*, King *Richard* marched into *Scotland*, nd reduced the City of *Edinburgh* to Aſhes by Fire.

4. The Duke of *Glouceſter*, and his Adherents, taking up Arms againſt the King in the Year 1387, he raiſed an Army, under the Command of the Duke of *Ireland*, in order to oppoſe them, but the King's Forces were defeated.

5. In 1388, the Confederate Lords took Poſſeſſion of *London*, ſeized upon the Judges, and compelled the King to diſcard his Miniſters, and call a Parliament; wherein they attainted the Archbiſhop of *York*, the Duke of *Ireland*, the Earl of *Suffolk*, the Chief Juſtice *Treſſilian*, and ſeveral other Perſons of Diſtinction. They compelled the King, moreover, to renew his Coronation-Oath, and paſs an Act of general Indemnity.

6. In 1389, the King declared himſelf of Age, and made great Alterations in his Miniſtry.

7. In 1392, he took away the Privileges of the Citizens of *London*; but, on their Submiſſion reſtored them again.

8. In

8. In 1394, the King went into *Ireland* and ſubdued an Inſurrection that was raiſed there.

9. His Queen, *Anne*, dying at *Sheene*, near *Richmond*, in *Surry*, that ſame Year, in 1396, the King inter-married with *Iſabel*, the Daughter of *Charles* the VIth then King of *France*; who was but ſeven Years of Age; and thereupon a Peace was concluded for 30 Years.

10. The King ordered his Uncle, the Duke of *Glouceſter*, to be ſeized and impriſoned at *Calais*; and it was currently reported that he was murdered there.

11. In 1397, the King called a Parliament; in which, the Acts that abridged his Prerogative were repealed; as alſo, an Act, which empowered 11 Lords to inſpect the public Revenues, and call his Miniſters to Account; thoſe Acts being declared to be traiterouſly obtained.

12. Soon after, many of the Lords that had appeared in Arms againſt the King were attainted, and executed accordingly.

13. In 1399, the King embarked for *Ireland*; and in his Abſence, *Henry*, then late Duke of *Hereford*, but then Duke of *Lancaſter*, landed in *Yorkſhire*, and was joined by the Nobility and Gentry. Whereupon *Richard* returned to *England*, but was abandoned by his Army, as well as his other Subjects; and, being taken by Surprize, was ſent Priſoner to *Flint-Caſtle* by the Duke of *Lancaſter*, who called a Parliament in the King's Name, and ex-

exhibited Articles of Mal-Adminiſtration againſt him, and compelled him to reſign the Crown; and thereupon uſurped the Throne himſelf.

Memorandum.

Notwithſtanding his two Marriages, he left no Iſſue behind him.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In the 4th Year of this Prince's Reign, a Mortality almoſt depopulated the North of *England.*
2. In his 6th Year, there happened ſuch an Earthquake, that the Ships, which rode in Haven, were ſtruck one againſt another.
3. In his 12th Year, the Month of *March* was extremely tempeſtuous; and conſequent upon it, there was not only a Plague but a Famine.
4. In his 22d Year, notwithſtanding all the Bay-trees throughout *England* were remarkably withered, yet they recovered their Verdure afterwards.
5. In this Reign, if we may credit *Baker*, there was an Image of a Man made by Necromancy, which ſpake ſome certain Words.
6. According to ſome Hiſtorians, it was in this Reign, that Gunpowder was firſt invented, by an Accident that happened to a Monk in *Germany*; others, however, place this Invention much higher; and the *French* in particular affirm, that *Edward* III. had hea-

vy Artillery in the Battle of *Creſſy*, by which Means he gained that remarkable Victory.

7. About the Middle of this King's Reign, peeked, high-toed Shoes, faſtened to the Knees with ſilver Chains, were in high Faſhion.

8. Not long after, Side-ſaddles for the Ladies came in Faſhion, and long Gowns were worn, in Imitation of the Queen, who was a *Bohemian* Princeſs: For the *Engliſh* Ladies before that Time, rode aſtride like the Men.

His Death *and* Burial.

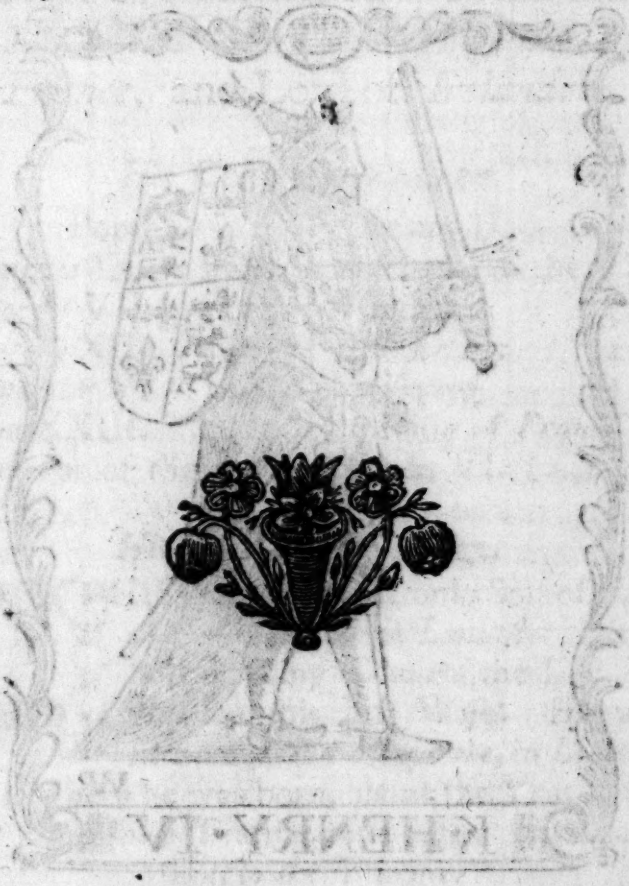
Not long after he was ſent a Priſoner to *Pontefract-Caſtle*, he was cruelly murdered by a whole Gang of Aſſaſſins; but he killed four of them firſt, with a Battle-ax, which he forced out of one of their Hands. He lived 33 Years, of which he reigned 22 Years, three Months, and ſome few Days. King *Henry* cauſed a Monument to be erected to the Memory of him and his Queen *Anne*, at the Head of that of *Edward* the IIId, in the *Confeſſor*'s Chapel.

His Character.

Richard II. like *Edward* II. was not leſs remarkable for the Beauty of his Perſon, than for the Adverſity of his Fortune. His Adminiſtration, 'tis very probable, was unhappy, only through his Youth, which expoſed him to the Poiſon of arbitrary Notions, before he was of Years of Diſcretion to diſtinguiſh: For on divers Occaſions, he diſcovered much

of

of that Courage and Greatneſs of Mind, for which his Father, the *Black Prince*, and his Grand-father King *Edward* III. were ſo peculiarly remarkable.



HENRY IV. *Surnamed of* Bolingbroke, XXXIIId *King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland. *From* 1399, *to* 1413.

K·HENRY·IV

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Lancaſtrian Henry *now the Throne poſſeſs'd,*
A Prince of no mean Politics confeſs'd;
But courts the Prieſts, *their Favour to engage:*
Hence Lollards *felt dire Perſecution's Rage.*

HENRY IV. Surnamed of *Bolingbroke*, XXXIIId King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors of the *Eaſt*.	
Boniface IX.	1389.	*Emanuel* II.	1391.
Innocent VII.	1404.	Emperors of the *Weſt*.	
Gregory XII.	1406.	*Wenceſlaus*	1378.
Alexander V.	1408.	*Rob. Le Pet*	1400.
John XXIII.	1410.	*Sigiſmund*	1410.
		King of *France*.	
		Charles VI.	1380.

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS *Henry* was the only Son of *John* of *Gaunt*, Duke of *Lancaſter*, fourth Son of King *Edward* the IIId, by *Blanche*, his firſt Wife. He was ſurnamed of *Bolingbroke*, in *Lincolnſhire*, where he was born, about the Year 1366.

His remarkable Tranſactions *before his* Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

1. In a Parliament held at *Weſtminſter*, in the 9th Year of King *Richard* II. he was created Earl of *Derby*, and under that Character, intermarrying with *Mary de Bohun*, the younger Daughter to *Humphrey*, Earl of *Hereford*, *Eſſex*, and *Northampton*, and Conſtable of *England*, he enjoyed in her Right, the Earl-

doms of *Hereford* and *Northampton*, the Lordship of *Brecknock*, and the Patronage of *Lanthony*.

2. Whilst Earl of *Derby* he signalized himself in an Expedition that he made into *Prussia*, where, joining his Forces with those of the Grand Master of *Prussia* and *Liefland*, he routed the Army of *Skirgal*, King of *Lithuania*, and afterwards, having pent up the said King in the City of *Wiltz*, he assaulted the Place, set up his Standard on the Wall, and took it, and afterwards returned Home with Abundance of Honour and Reputation.

3. In the 22d Year of *Richard* II. he was created Duke of *Hereford*, and not long after, being accused by *Thomas Mowbray*, then Duke of *Norfolk*, of High Treason, he challenged the said Duke to single Combat; and both appeared at the Time and Place appointed; but were, all on a sudden, arrested; *Norfolk* was banished for Life; but *Henry* for 10 Years only.

His Accession *to the* Throne.

Having deposed King *Richard* the IId, as above related, he was crowned at *Westminster* on the 30th of *October*, in the Year 1399.

His remarkable Transactions *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. No sooner was he established on the Throne, but he reversed the Attainders of his Uncle, the Duke of *Glocester*, and his Friends, and

and revived the Statutes paſſed in the Reign of *Richard* II.

2. He reduced all Treaſons to the 25th of *Edward* III. and procured the Crown to be ſettled upon the Heirs of his Body.

3. In 1400, there was a grand Conſpiracy of the Nobility to reſtore King *Richard*; but he defeated them; and more Perſons of high Diſtinction were executed in this than any other preceding Reign.

4. In this Year, King *Henry* marched, not only againſt the *Scots*, and burnt *Edinburgh*; but againſt the *Welſh* likewiſe, who had taken up Arms in Favour of King *Richard*.

5. In 1401, he obtained a ſignal Victory over the *Scots*.

6. In 1403, there was another grand Conſpiracy againſt him by the Duke of *Surry*, the Earls of *Northumberland* and *Saliſbury*, *Owen Glendour*, &c. but they were all defeated at *Shrewſbury*. The three firſt were beheaded, and young *Piercy*, ſurnamed *Hotſpur*, killed.

7. The People, humbly craving of him a Reformation of his Houſhold Expences, and a Diſmiſſion of Part of his Retinue, he graciouſly condeſcended to both; and the Charge of his Houſhold thereupon was limited to 16000 Marks.

8. In 1404, a Counterfeit King *Richard* was ſet up againſt him.

9. In 1405, there was a new Inſurrection againſt him in the North, by the Earl Marſhal

Mowbray, the Archbishop of *York*, &c. but he soon suppressed it.

10. This Year, the *French*, assisting *Owen Glendour* and the *Welsh* against him, he took the King of *Scots* Son Prisoner.

11. In 1408, he suppressed another Insurrection at *York*.

His Marriages.

He first intermarried with *Mary Bohun*, Daughter of *Humphrey*, the Earl of *Hereford* and *Essex*; and afterwards with *Jane*, the Daughter of *Charles* I. King of *Navarre*.

His Issue, *Male and Female, by his first Queen.*

He had four Sons, 1. *Henry* of *Monmouth*, his Son, and Successor. 2. *Thomas*, Duke of *Clarence*. 3. *John*, Duke of *Bedford*. And, 4. *Humphrey*, Duke of *Glouceſter*. — He had by her likewise two Daughters, *viz.* *Blanche*, who was married to the Duke of *Bavaria*; and *Philippa*, who intermarried with *John*, King of *Denmark*. —— But by his last Queen *Joan*, Daughter of *Charles* I. King of *Navarre*, he had no Issue.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In his 4th Year, there appeared a Comet, betwixt the East and the North.
2. In his 7th Year, there was a Breach in the Banks of the *Thames*, on the *Kentish* Side, which did an immense deal of Damage.
3. In this Year, *Royston*, in *Hertfordshire*, was reduced to Ruins by Fire.
4. In his 9th Year, the Winter was so excessive

ſive ſharp, and the Snow continued ſo many Months upon the Ground, that moſt of the ſmall Birds periſhed with Hunger.

5. In this Reign, Pride in Dreſs aroſe to a monſtrous Height, occaſioned by the King and his Courtiers giving countenance thereto by their bad Example.

His Death *and* Burial.

In the Year 1413, he provided a mighty Fleet, in order to carry on a War into the *Holy Land*; but was prevented by dying ſuddenly, in an Apoplectic Fit, in the 46th Year of his Age, after a Reign of 13 Years, five Months, and 21 Days. He was interred ſoon afterwards in the Cathedral at *Canterbury*, where his Monument, with the Effigies of him and his ſecond Queen lying upon it, is ſtill to be ſeen.

His Character.

This Prince has been, by many, accounted a great Politician and a good Soldier; but not much of either appears from his Actions; for he lived in perpetual Diſtruſt of his own Skill, and was ever jealous, not only of his Subjects, but of his Son, without the leaſt Ground for any Suſpicion. He got the Appellation of *cruel*, from putting ſuch a Number of his own Noblemen to Death, and for the Perſecution which he began againſt the *Lollards*: But beſides, the Murder of *Richard* II. will be ſuch a Blot to his Memory, that it will never be forgotten.

HENRY V. *Surnamed of* Monmouth, *the* XXXIVth *King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland. *From* 1413, *to* 1422.

His CHARACTER, *in* Memorial Verſes.

France *conqu'ring* Henry's *Parts, and Prowes rare,*
The glorious Field of Agincourt *declare:*
A vicious Prince *a virtuous* King *became;*
But Prieſts *indulg'd, kept* England *in a Flame.*

HENRY V. Surnamed of *Monmouth*, the XXXIVth King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperor of the *Weſt*.	
John XXIII.	1410.	*Sigiſmund*.	1410.
Martin V.	1417.	Kings of *France*.	
Emperor of the *Eaſt*.		*Charles* VI. *and* VII.	
Emanuel II.	1391.		

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS heroic Prince was born at *Monmouth* in the *Marſhes* of *South-Wales* (and from that Place had his Surname) in the Year 1388, in the 11th of *Richard* II. his Father being then only Earl of *Derby*.

His Education.

His younger Years were employed at *Oxford*, where, in *Queen's College*, he was a Student, under the Tuition of Cardinal *Henry Beaufort*, his half Uncle, at that Time Chancellor of that Univerſity.

King *Richard* II. during his Father's Exile, carried him into *Ireland*, and cauſed him to be impriſoned there in the Caſtle of *Trim*; but his

his Father, having deposed that King, released him, when he was but 12 Years of Age.

Soon after, he had the Crown entailed upon him in Parliament, and was thereupon created Prince of *Wales*, Duke of *Cornwall*, and Earl of *Chester*. He had the Title likewise of Duke of *Aquitaine* conferred upon him.

From *Oxford* he was called to Court, and *Thomas Piercy*, then Earl of *Worcester*, was appointed his Governor.

The Appearances of Valour in him were conspicuous betimes; for, in the famous Battle of *Shrewsbury*, before he was well arrived to his 16th Year, he forced *Owen Glendour* to fly to the Mountains and Desarts of *Wales* for Shelter, where he perished in a very miserable Manner.

Being free from the Care and Inspection of his Tutors, he fell into some little Disorders, thro' the Heat of Blood, and the wild Sallies of Youth, which he committed rather out of Gaiety of Heart, than any natural Inclination to Vice; and tho' he was charged with so mean an Action as that of robbing the Receiver of his Father's Rents; yet he made Restitution to those whom he had injured in the Foot of their Accounts.

His Accession *to the* Throne.

In the latter End of *March* 1413, he commenced his Reign, and on the 9th of *April* following he was crowned at *Westminster*.

His

His remarkable Tranſactions, *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. In 1415, there was a Conſpiracy againſt him by *Richard Plantagenet*, then Earl of *Cambridge*, and others; but theſe Malecontents were ſoon ſuppreſſed, taken Priſoners, and executed according to their Demerits.

2. In the ſame Year, the King embarked with an Army of 10,000 Men for *France*, and landed them in *Normandy*.

3. On the 24th of *October* then next following, he obtained a ſignal Victory over the *French* at *Agincourt*, where giving no Quarter, no leſs than 60,000 Perſons were killed upon the Spot.

4. In 1416, he gained another ſignal Victory over the *French* at Sea; and in 1417, he took *Caen*, *Falais*, and divers other Places.

5. Soon after that Conqueſt, he was invaded by the *Scots*; but they were forced to retire with Diſgrace.

6. In 1418, the *Engliſh* took *Cherburg*, and ſeveral other Towns in *France*, and laid Siege to *Roan*, the Capital of *Normandy*, which ſurrendered upon certain Articles, on the 19th of *January*, 1419.

7. Soon after, a Treaty was ſet on Foot at *Melun*; but that proving ineffectual, a ſecond was entered into between the *French* King and the King of *England*; wherein it was ſtipulated, that King *Henry* ſhould inter-marry with the Princeſs *Catherine*, the *French* King's Daughter;

ter; that he ſhould have the Regency of *France*, during the *French* King's Life, and ſucceed him in his Throne after his Deceaſe.

8. In 1420, however, the *Dauphin* oppoſed King *Henry*; whereupon he laid Siege to *Melun*, and took it with ſeveral other Towns.

9. Soon after this Conqueſt, the Kings of *England* and *France* made a magnificent Entry into *Paris*, and on the 30th of *May*, then next enſuing, the Agreement between the two Kings was ratified by the *French* Parliament, and ſent to *England* in order to be recorded in the Court of *Exchequer*.

10. In 1421, he called a Parliament and obtained a freſh Supply, tho' the Nation complained of their being impoveriſhed before that Grant, and ſet the King of *Scots* at Liberty, who had been a Priſoner no leſs than 10 Years ſucceſſively in *England*; but after that, the Earl of *Buchan*, General of the *Scots* Troops in *France*, defeated the Duke of *Clarence*, and a great Body of *Engliſh*, in which Engagement the Duke was killed on the Spot.

In 1422, *Henry*, however, went over once more to *France*, and took ſeveral Towns from the *Dauphin*.

His Marriage *and* Iſſue.

On the 3d of *June* 1420, he intermarried with *Catherine*, the Daughter of King *Charles* the VIth of *France*, at *Troyes*; and had Iſſue by her one Child only, namely, *Henry* of *Wind-*

Windſor, who ſucceeded him by the Title of *Henry* the VIth.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this King's Reign.*

1. In this Reign, the famous Sir *John Oldcaſtle*, Lord *Cobham*, the great Favourer and Support of the *Lollards*, was, at the Inſtigation of the *Prieſts*, hanged in St. *Giles*'s Fields, and his Body burnt before he was taken down from the Gallows; and divers other pious Perſons ſuffered for the ſame Faith.
2. In this Reign, *Moregate* was firſt erected.
3. As the Streets of *London* were before his Time all dark, and diſmal, after Sun-ſet in the Winter, an Order was made for the hanging out of Lanthorns and Candles as ſoon as Night came on.

His Death *and* Burial.

Falling into a Flux and Fever, whilſt he was in *France*, he was conveyed to the Palace of *Vincennes*, where he died a few Days after, in the Year 1422, being the 34th of his Age; of which he reigned nine Years, five Months, and eleven Days. He was interred, however, ſome Time afterwards in *Weſtminſter-Abbey*, where his Tomb, and the little Chapel that contains it, are both deſervedly admired for their reſpective Beauties.

His Character.

Tho' this Monarch died in the Flower of his Age, and after a ſhort Reign; yet few Princes have left behind them more ſhining Proofs of every Royal Virtue. He was brave, merciful, magnanimous, and obſervant of the Voice of his People.

HENRY

HENRY VI. *Surnamed of* Windſor, *the* XXXV*th King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland, *from* 1422 *to* 1461.

His CHARACTER, *in* Memorial Verſes.

Meak, mild and merciful, but weak his Sway;
Crown'd King of France, *but* France *would not obey.*
Tho' brave his Queen, the Yorkiſts *ſiez'd his Throne,*
And his Son's *Murder uſher'd in his* own.

HENRY

HENRY VIth. Surnamed of *Windſor*, the XXXVth King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Conſtantine III.	1448.
Martin V.	1417.	Emperors of the *Weſt*.	
Eugenius IV.	1431.	*Sigiſmund*	1410.
Nicholas V.	1447.	*Albert* II.	1438.
Calixtus III.	1455.	*Frederic* IV.	1440.
Pius II.	1458.	Kings of *France*.	
Emperors of the *Eaſt*.		*Charles* VII.	1422.
Emanuel II.	1391.	*Lewis* XI.	1440.
John VII.	1426.		

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS *Henry*, the only Son of *Henry* V. by *Catharine* of *Valois*, was born at *Windſor*, from whence he derived his Surname, in the Year 1421, and in the 9th Year of his Father's Reign.

His Proclamation *and* Coronation.

He was proclaimed King under 9 Months of Age; the Duke of *Exeter* and Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, his great Uncles, being appointed his Guardians.

In 1422. *Charles* VIth King of *France* dying, and his Son, the *Dauphin*, assuming the Title of King of *France*, by the Name of *Charles* VIIth, the Duke of *Bedford*, his Uncle, then Regent of *France*, in the Year 1424, gained a signal Victory over the New King's Forces, and took his General, the Duke of *Alenson* Prisoner at *Vernevil*.

In this Year, the King of *Scots* did Homage to the King of *England* for *Scotland*, after 18 Years Imprisonment.

In 1428, *Orleans* was besieged by *Thomas Montague*, Earl of *Salisbury*, who was killed by a Canon-shot before the Place.

In 1429, the Siege was continued by the Earl of *Suffolk*, and the Lord *Talbot*.

At this Time, the famous *Joan* of *Arc*, pretended to be sent from God to save the Kingdom of *France*; and as the King confided in what she said, she relieved the Place, and obliged the *English* to raise the Siege; and soon after, the *English* were defeated, and *Talbot* taken Prisoner.

On the 6th of *November*, in this Year, King *Henry* was crowned at *Westminster* with great Pomp and Solemnity.

In the Year 1430, *Joan* of *Arc*, was taken by the *English*, and afterwards burnt for a Witch at *Roan*, on the 31st of *May* 1431.

On the 17th of *November* following, King *Henry* was crowned King of *France*, at *Paris*, by *Henry*, Bishop of *Winchester*, his great Uncle;

cle; where having had Fealty ſworn to him by the *French* Nobility, he ſoon after returned to *England*.

His Marriage *and* Iſſue.

In 1445, King *Henry* intermarried with *Margaret* of *Valois*, the Daughter of *Renè*, Duke of *Anjou*, and titular King of *Sicily*, *&c.* who was a perfect Beauty, and endowed with a Genius far ſurpaſſing the Generality of her Sex, to whom (through her Aſcendancy over him) and the Earl of *Suffolk*, he left the Diſpoſal of all State Affairs, and devoted himſelf more to *Acts* of *Piety*, than to the *Art* of *Government*.

By this darling Queen of his, he had Iſſue only one Son, namely, *Edward* of *Lancaſter*, who was born at *Weſtminſter* in the Year 1453, and in the 31ſt of his Father's Reign.

This Match, however, contributed greatly to the Completion of his Misfortunes; for it laid the Foundation of the long War that followed between the two Houſes of *York* and *Lancaſter*, or the *White* and *Red-Roſe*.

At laſt, in the Year 1461, King *Henry* was dethroned by *Edward*, Earl of *March*, who then fought his Queen's Forces at *Towton*, in which Battle no leſs than 36,776 of them loſt their Lives.

Soon after this ſignal Victory, the Earl of *March* was proclaimed, and crowned King of *England* at *Weſtminſter*, on the 29th of *June* then next enſuing.

King *Henry*, at the Time of this his Depoſition, was but about 39 Years of Age, at which Time, he retired with his Queen and Son into *Scotland*.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In his 5th Year, there was ſuch a great Rain, that it laſted from *April* to the firſt of *November*, with ſcarce any Intermiſſion.
2. In his 17th Year, there was ſo great a Famine, that People were glad to make *Bread* of *Fern-Roots*.
3. In his 18th Year, all the Lions in the Tower died.
4. In his 22d Year, a deep River, near *Bedford*, is ſaid to have ſtood ſuddenly ſtill, and divide itſelf.
5. In his 33d Year, there was a great Comet; and,
6. Sir *Richard Baker* aſſures us, that there came out of the Sea, at that Time, a monſtrous Cock, that crowed three Times, clapping his Wings, each Time, in a very violent Manner.
7. In his 36th Year, the ſame Author informs us, that it rained *Blood* in *Bedfordſhire*.
8. In the Reign of this Monarch, and in the Year 1440, the uſeful *Art* of *Printing* was firſt invented.

His *Death* and *Burial.*

This unfortunate Monarch, in the 58th Year of his Age, (being a Priſoner in the Tower) and the Duke of *Glouceſter*, finding him

him there at his Devotion, he drew his Dagger, and ſtabbed him to the Heart. His Corpſe, the Day after his Death, was brought to St. *Paul*'s, in an open Coffin, bare-faced; and from thence was conveyed to *Chertſey* Abbey, without Prieſt or Clerk, where it was interred; but afterwards, by the Appointment of King *Edward* IV. his Body was removed to *Windſor-Caſtle*, and there interred in St. *George*'s Chapel, under a very handſome Monument, of which there are, at preſent, indeed, no Remains.

His Character.

It appears, from the whole Courſe of this King's Adminiſtration, that notwithſtanding he was pious, humane, and had every private Virtue; yet he had none of thoſe Talents that adorned his Father, and ſhould have made him fit for Government.

And notwithſtanding he met with a vaſt Variety of Misfortunes; yet he bore them all with invincible Patience, and a perfect Reſignation to the divine Will. His principal Defect was his Weakneſs; and had it not been for the high Spirit of his Queen, and the Fidelity of ſome truly great Men, who were inviolably attached to his Intereſt, he muſt have given Way, long before he did, to the Power and Ambition of the *Houſe* of *York*.

EDWARD IV. *the* XXXVIth *King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland, *from* 1461 *to* 1483.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Not unmoleſted Yorkiſt Edward *reign'd;*
Yet, laſt victorious, he the Throne maintain'd:
Revengeful, jealous, politic; but lewd:
His Virtues were by Luxury ſubdu'd.

The

The HOUSE *of* YORK; *or, the* WHITE-ROSE.

EDWARD IV. The XXXVIth King of *England*, and Lord of *Ireland*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperor.	
Pius II.	1458.	*Frederic* IV.	1440.
Paul II.	1464.	King of *France*.	
Sixtus IV.	1467.	*Lewis* XI.	1461.

His Birth and *Parentage*.

THIS *Edward*, the eldeſt ſurviving Son of *Richard*, Duke of *York*, was born at *Roan* in *Normandy*, on the 29th of *April* 1441.

His Coronation.

He was crowned at *Weſtminſter* on the 29th of *June* 1461.

His Marriage *and* Iſſue.

In 1464, he intermarried with the Lady *Elizabeth Grey*, the Widow of Sir *John Grey*, of *Groby*.

By this Queen, he had the following Iſſue Male, *viz.* 1. *Edward* of *York*, who ſucceeded his Father, and was called *Edward* V. 2. *Richard* of *York*, in 1474, created Duke of *York*.

York. And, 3. *George* of *York*, who died an Infant.

His Issue Female, were the Princesses following, *viz.* 1. *Elizabeth.* 2. *Cecilie.* 3. *Anne.* 4. *Bridget*, a Nun. 5. *Mary.* 6. *Margaret.* And, 7. *Catharine.*

Besides these, he had several natural Children by the Lady *Elizabeth Lucy*, who was one of his favourite Concubines; and *Jane Shore* was another.

His remarkable Transactions *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. He obtained a signal Victory over King *Henry*'s Forces at *Towton* in *Yorkshire*, in the Year 1461.
2. In the Year 1463, King *Edward*'s General, the Viscount *Montacute*, defeated King *Henry* and his Queen, with the *Scots*, at *Hoxham.*
3. In 1464, King *Henry* was taken in Disguise, and carried Prisoner to the Tower.
4. In 1469, King *Edward* was taken Prisoner, and sent to the Castle of *Middleton* in *Yorkshire.*
5. *Edward*, however, in 1471, recovered the Crown.
6. Some Time after that, he visited all his Dominions, and caused above 1400 Persons of Distinction to be put to Death. And to complete the bloody Execution, he gave Orders that the Duke of *Clarence* should be drowned in a Cask of Sack.

7. In

7. In 1481, he entered into a War with *Scotland*, took *Berwick*, and marched to *Edinburgh*; upon which a Peace enſued.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

In the 17th Year of his Reign, there was a ſevere Plague; and in his 12th Year another: Both of which ſwept away great Numbers of People; and each was attended with a Famine.

His Death and Burial.

On the 9th of *April*, 1483, King *Edward* died of a Surfeit at *Weſtminſter*, in the 42d Year of his Age, after a Reign of 22 Years, one Month, and five Days.

He was nobly interred at the *New Chapel* in *Windſor*.

His Character.

Before he was King, he was ſurprizingly active, vigilant, and warlike; but no ſooner was he inveſted with the Royal Dignity, than he devoted himſelf almoſt wholly to his Pleaſures. When he came firſt to the Crown, he was generally allowed to be one of the handſomeſt Men in all *England*; and Hiſtorians aſſert, that he had not his Equal for Beauty in all *Europe*.

EDWARD V. *the* XXXVIIth *King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland; *who reigned only two Months, and* 13 *Days of the Year* 1483.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Poor Child! how ſhort his Reign and full of Strife!
Untimely clos'd his own and Brother's Life:
He ſaw each faithful Friend, by Fraud, expire,
By Richard's *Fraud, who did to* Rule *aſpire.*

EDWARD V. the XXXVIIth King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Pope.		*Frederic* IV.	1440.
Sixtus IV.	1471.	King of *France*.	
Emperor of the *East*.		*Charles* VIII.	1483.

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS unhappy Prince, the eldeſt Son of King *Edward* IV. and *Elizabeth*, his Queen, was born in the *Sanctuary* at *Weſtminſter*, on the 4th of *November* 1470, and in the 10th Year of his Father's Reign.

His Proclamation.

He had not fully attained to the 11th Year of his Age, when, upon his Father's Deceaſe, he was proclaimed King, but never crowned.

Upon his firſt Acceſſion to the Throne, *Richard*, then Duke of *Glouceſter*, prevailed on the *Council* to appoint him *Protector* of the King and Kingdom; and upon the *Queen*, to deliver up her Son *Richard*, then Duke of *York*, to his Care and Tuition.

Upon his Succeſs therein, he ſecured Both in the Tower.

Soon after, the *Protector* caused the Earl *Rivers*, the Queen's Brother, and the Lord *Richard Grey*, her Son, to be beheaded.

Five Days after this, he declared his Brothers, King *Edward* and the Duke of *Clarence*, Bastards; as also the Issue of *Edward* IV; and by the Assistance of the then Duke of *Buckingham*, he usurped the Throne, when his Nephew, *Edward* V. had reigned two Months and 13 Days only.

His untimely Death *and* Burial.

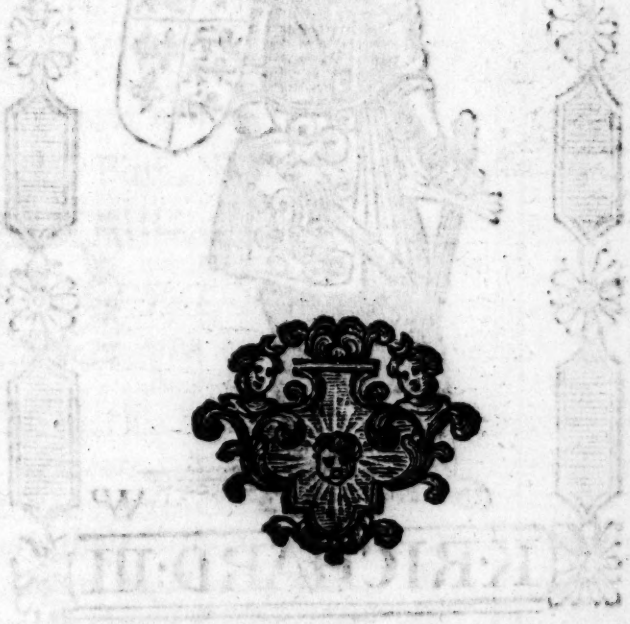
The Protector, however, not thinking himself secure, whilst the two Princes were alive, he commanded Sir *Robert Brakenbury*, then Lieutenant of the Tower, to put them to Death; who, refusing so dishonourable an Office, was dismissed from his Post, and one Sir *James Tyrrel* was substituted in his stead, who immediately procured that impious and inhuman Work to be carried into Execution by one *Miles Forest*, his Footman, and *John Dighton*, an hired *Ruffian*.

These barbarous Assassins, entering the Chamber, in the Dead of Night, smothered Both the young Princes in their Beds.

Their Bodies were soon after buried at the Stair-foot, near their Lodgings; where they lay undiscovered, till the Year 1674; at which Time, by the express Order of King *Charles* II. their Bones were carefully gathered up, and deposited, in a Marble Urn, amongst the Kings

Kings in *Henry* the VIIth's Chapel in *Weſtminſter-Abbey*.

It cannot be expected, that, in a Reign of leſs than three Months, we ſhould have any remarkable Occurrences to record; or any particular Character to give of a Prince, who met with ſo cruel and untimely a Fate, in what may, with Propriety, be termed his infant Years.



RICHARD III. *Surnamed* Crook-back, *the* XXXVIIIth *King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland. *From* 1483, *to* 1485.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Richard, *with deep Hypocriſy endu'd,*
Ambitious, cruel, deſtitute of Good;
Yet courted public Love by wholeſome Laws,
And bravely fell, bad Virtue been the Cauſe.

RICHARD III. Surnamed *Crook-back*, the XXXVIIIth King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperor of the *East*.	
Sixtus IV.	1471.	*Frederic* IV.	1440.
Innocent VIII.	1484.	King of *France*.	
		Charles VIII.	1483.

His Birth, Parentage *and* Education.

THIS *Richard*, who was the 8th and youngeſt Son of *Richard*, Duke of *York*, by *Cecilia Nevil*, his Wife, was born at *Fotheringay-Caſtle*, in *Northamptonſhire*.

He and his Brother *George*, afterwards Duke of *Clarence*, were ſent, by their Mother, to *Utrecht* in *Holland*; where they tarried till *Edward* their Brother attained the Crown.

Upon his Coronation, this *Richard* was created Duke of *Glouceſter*, and thereupon conſtituted Lord High Admiral of *England*, and was honoured afterwards with divers other high Titles.

On the Death of that Prince, he was conſtituted *Protector* of the Realm, and *Tutor* to King *Edward* V. his Nephew.

His Marriage *and* Iſſue.

In 1482, he intermarried with the Lady *Anne*, the youngeſt Daughter of *Richard Nevil*, great Earl of *Warwick*, and Relict of Prince *Edward*, the Son of *Henry* the VIth. He had only one Son, namely, *Edward*, Earl of *Saliſbury*, created Prince of *Wales*, but he died before his Father.

His Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

No ſooner had he moſt inhumanly murdered his two Nephews, but he uſurped the Throne, and on the 6th of *July*, 1483, he and his Queen were crowned at *Weſtminſter*, and not long after in the City of *York*.

His firſt Tranſactions *at Home*.

1. In 1484, he called a Parliament, wherein his Title was recognized; and his two Brothers openly declared Baſtards.

2. In the ſame Year, the Duke of *Buckingham*, eſpouſing the Earl of *Richmond*'s Intereſt, formed a Conſpiracy againſt *Richard*; but *Richard* ſoon ſuppreſſed that Rebellion, took the Duke Priſoner, and cauſed him to be beheaded at *Shrewſbury*.

3. Soon after, the Earl of *Richmond*, and his Adherents were attainted in Parliament.

4. The Earl of *Richmond*, however, in 1485, landed in *Wales*, and afterwards engaged King *Richard* at *Boſworth-Field*, near *Leiceſter*, where he routed his Army, and killed the King upon the Spot with his own Hand.

The

The moſt remarkable Occurrence in this Reign was the Swelling of the River *Severn*, which cauſed ſo great an Inundation, that for ten Days ſucceſſively it overthrew a great Number of Houſes, and carried their Furniture down about the Country for many Miles.

His Death *and* Burial.

He fell by the Hand of *Richmond*, as above hinted, in the 34th Year of his Age, after a Reign of only two Years, two Months, and two Days. His Crown was found in the Field of Battle, and he himſelf amongſt the Dead, ſtript ſtark naked, and all beſmeared with Dirt: His Carcaſe was thereupon laid croſs a Horſe's Back, where it was carried to *Leiceſter*, and expoſed for two Days to public View. Soon afterwards, indeed, it was interred in the *Grey-Friars* Church in that City; but without the leaſt Pomp or Solemnity whatſoever.

His Character.

He was low in Stature, very homely, and crump-backed. He was not only an inhuman Murderer, but a great Hypocrite. He had perſonal Valour, but was, by Nature, cruel. He was a profound Politician, and could conceal his Sentiments as artfully as any Man living.

HENRY VII. *Surnamed* Solomon, *the* XXXIXth *King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland. *From* 1485, *to* 1509.

His CHARACTER, *in* Memorial Verſes.

The firſt of Tudor's *Race, of high Renown,*
Spite of Pretenders *held the* Engliſh *Crown;*
Subtle, profound; his Projects tended ſtill
To fix his Empire, and his Coffers fill.

The HOUSE *of* TUDOR.

HENRY VII. Surnamed *Solomon*, the XXXIXth King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors of the *Eaſt*.	
Innocent VIII.	1484.	*Frederic* IV.	1440.
Alexander VI.	1492.	*Maximilian* I.	1493.
Pius III.	1503.	Kings of *France*.	
Julius II.	1503.	*Charles* VIII.	1483.
		Lewis XII.	1498.

His Birth, Parentage *and* Education.

THIS Prince was the Son of *Edmond*, of *Hadham*, Earl of *Richmond*, by *Margaret*, his Wife, born in *Pembroke-Caſtle*, in 1451, and brought up a Scholar at *Eaton* College.

His Acceſſion *to the Throne.*

On the 22d of *Auguſt*, 1485, he commenced his Reign, and was crowned at *Weſtminſter* on the 30th of *Octōber*, then next enſuing.

His remarkable Tranſactions *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. No ſooner was he crowned, but he inſtituted the Yeomen of the Guard.

2. In *November* following, he called a Parliament,

liament, which ſettled the Crown upon him and his Iſſue.

3. In 1486, he was oppoſed by two aſpiring *Impoſtors*; one called *Lambert Simnel*, and the other *Perkin Warbeck*; but *Henry*, in Proceſs of Time, ſuppreſſed them Both.

4. He ſpared *Simnel*'s Life, 'tis true, but made him, for ſome Time, a Drudge, and a Scullion in his Kitchin.

5. As to *Warbeck*, he firſt impriſoned him in the Tower, and afterwards cauſed him to be executed at *Tyburn*.

6. In 1489, there was an Inſurrection in the North on Account of Taxes; but it was ſoon ſuppreſſed.

7. In 1491, he entered into a War with *France*, but proving unſucceſsful there, a Peace was concluded in 1492, without any Action of Importance.

8. In 1496, the King of *Scots* marched an Army againſt him into *England*; but was ſoon obliged to retire with Confuſion and Diſgrace.

9. In 1497, there was an Inſurrection againſt him at *Cornwall*, under General *Audley*, who marched as far as *Black-heath*, in order to give *Henry* Battle; but the General's Army was totally defeated, and he himſelf taken in the Attempt, and executed ſoon after.

10. In 1506, there was another Conſpiracy againſt him by the Earl of *Suffolk* and Others; but they were ſoon diſcovered, and defeated likewiſe.

His Marriage *and* Iſſue.

On the 18th of *January*, 1486, this Prince intermarried with *Elizabeth*, the eldeſt Daughter of King *Edward* IV. By whom he had the following Male Iſſue, *viz.* 1. *Arthur*, who married *Catherine*, the *Infanta* of *Spain*. 2. *Henry*, who ſucceeded him. And, 3. *Edward*, who died an Infant. The Names of his Female Iſſue were, 1. *Margaret*, who married the King of *Scots*. 2. *Elizabeth*, who died an Infant. 3. *Mary*, who was twice married. And, 4, *Catherine*, who died an Infant.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In the firſt Year of this Reign, a Diſtemper, called the *Sweating-Sickneſs*, carried off ſeveral Thouſands, particularly in *London*.
2. In his 15th Year, there happened a great Plague, of which no leſs than 30,000 died in *London*.
3. Proviſions, in this Reign, were ſo cheap, that Wheat ſold for 3*s*. a Quarter.

His *Death* and *Burial*.

This Prince died of the Gout at *Eaſt-ſhene*, in the 53d Year of his Age, after a Reign of 23 Years, and eight Months. He was interred in his own new Chapel at *Weſtminſter*.

Memorandum.

He left behind him ſuch an immenſe Treaſure of ready Money, that it was thought to be more than one Half of the Coin in the whole Kingdom.

Hi

His Character.

Avarice was his predominant Paſſion; for he drained his Subjects to that Degree, by Taxes and Fines, that he became a perfect Burden to the Nation. In all other Reſpects he was allowed to be a great Prince. He was ſtrictly chaſte, and temperate, and truly religious, without Affectation.

HENRY

HENRY VIII. *the* XLth *King of* England, France *and* Ireland; *and ſtiled Defender of the Faith. From* 1509, *to* 1547.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Henry, *of haughty Mind, and ſturdy Mien,*
With Fury reign'd, and often chang'd his Queen;
Diſown'd the Pope; *yet kept us* Papiſts *ſtill,*
And burnt both Sides who dar'd conteſt his Will.

HENRY VIII. the XLth King of *England*, *France* and *Ireland*; and ſtiled Defender of the Faith.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors.	
Julius II.	1503.	*Maximilian* I.	1593.
Leo X.	1513.	*Charles* V.	1512.
Adrian VI.	1522.	Kings of *France*.	
Clement VII.	1523.	*Lewis* XII.	1498.
Paul III.	1534.	*Francis* I.	1515.

His Birth, Parentage *and* Education.

THIS heroic Prince, the ſecond Son of King *Henry* VII. was born at *Greenwich* in 1491; and had ſuch an Education in his Youth, that he was accounted the moſt learned Prince in Chriſtendom.

His Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

In 1509, at which Time he was about 18 Years of Age, he was proclaimed King, as being ſole Heir to the Crown, and having married ſome few Months before with the Princeſs *Katherine*, his Brother *Arthur*'s Widow, they were both crowned with great Pomp and Solemnity on the 24th of *June*, then next enſuing.

His

His remarkable Tranſactions, *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. In 1510, he cauſed *Empſon* and *Dudley*, to be convicted, and executed as Traitors; being the two wicked Inſtruments of his Father's Extortions.

2. In 1512, he declared War with *France*.

3. In 1513, he not only took *Tournay*, and ſeveral other Places in *France*; but ſignalized himſelf in a peculiar Manner at the Engagement, called the *Battle of the Spurs*.

4. In the ſame Year, he gained a ſignal Victory over the *Scots*, at *Flodden*.

5. In 1514, he concluded a Peace with *France*.

6. In 1517, he ſuppreſſed an Inſurrection of the *London-Apprentices*, on Account of Strangers being permitted to *trade*.

7. In 1546, not long before he died, he deſtroyed 1148 Religious Houſes, and ſeized their Lands, amounting to no leſs than 183,707*l*. *per Annum*; with which Money he erected ſix Biſhopricks; and founded *Trinity College* in *Cambridge*, and *Chriſt's Hoſpital* in *London*.

His Marriages and Iſſue.

Having procured a Divorce from his firſt Wife, on the 14th of *July*, 1531, he ſeparated himſelf from her, and never ſaw her more. He had Iſſue by her, however, two Sons, one of whom died very young.

His ſecond Wife was *Anna Bullen*, by whom

he had Iſſue the Princeſs *Elizabeth*, afterwards Queen of *England*, and a ſtill-born Son.

His third Wife was the Lady *Jane Seymour*, by whom he had Iſſue one Son only, named *Edward*, who ſucceeded him in the Throne.

He had three other Wives, but by them he had no Iſſue at all.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this King's Reign.*

1. In his 9th Year, the Sweating-Sickneſs broke out and carried off a great Number of People; and in his 13th Year, there was a Peſtilence, which proved equally fatal.
2. In his 19th Year, there was a great Scarcity of Corn.
3. In his 20th Year, the Sweating-Sickneſs broke out once more, and ſwept away great Numbers of People.
4. In his 36th Year, there was another Peſtilence in *London*, which carried off Thouſands.

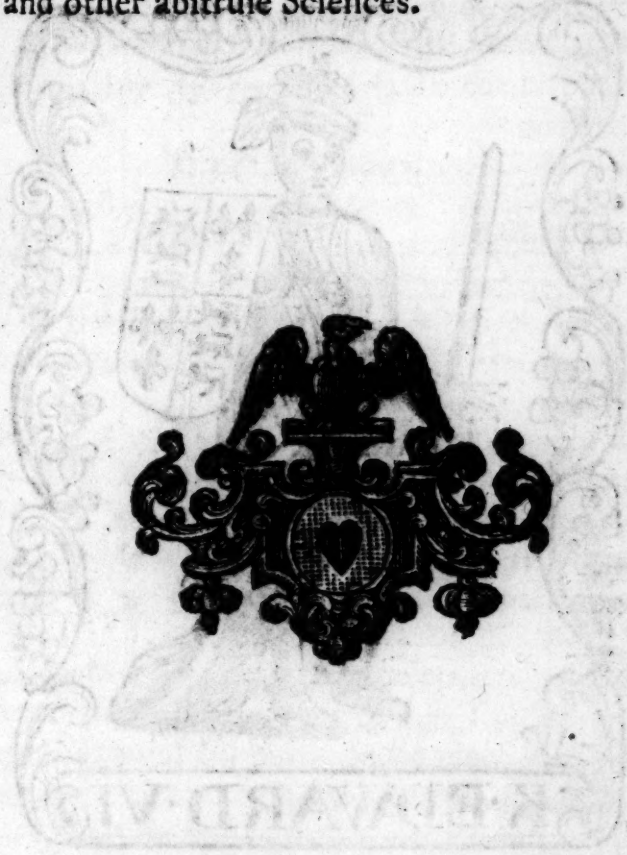
His Death *and* Burial.

This Prince died of a Complication of Humours, falling down upon an old Sore in his Leg, on the 28th of *January*, 1547, in the 56th Year of his Age, after he had reigned 37 Years, and nine Months. He was interred at *Windſor*.

His Character.

He was a very active Man, and well ſkilled in every princely Exerciſe. He was valiant without Oſtentation; of a free, generous Temper

Temper, and liberal to a Profuſion. He was a good Scholar, and took more Delight than moſt Princes do in the Study of Philoſophy, and other abſtruſe Sciences.



EDWARD VI. *the* XLIst *King of* England, France, *and* Ireland, *Defender of the Faith. From* 1547, *to* 1553.

His CHARACTER, *in* Memorial Verſes.

Edward *was learn'd, meek, pious, juſt, and ſage,*
A Man in Council, tho' a Child in Age:
He laid the Baſis of the Church *we boaſt;*
His Uncle's Quarrels injur'd him the moſt.

EDWARD VI. The XLIſt King of *England*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperor.	
Paul III.	1534.	*Charles* V.	1519.
Julius III.	1550.	King of *France*.	
		Henry II.	1547.

His Birth and Education.

EDWARD TUDOR was born at *Hampton-Court*, in the Year 1537, in the 29th Year of *Henry* VIII. whom he ſucceeded in the Throne in 1546; but before his Acceſſion, and before he attained the 10th Year of his Age, through the Care of his Tutor, and his own Natural Genius, he became well-ſkilled not only in the *French*, *Spaniſh*, and *Italian* Languages, but had alſo made ſome conſiderable Progreſs in the *Latin* and *Greek* Claſſics.

His Coronation.

On the 6th of *February* 1546, *Edward Seymour*, Earl of *Hertford*, was appointed *Protector*, and on the 20th of the ſame Month, the Young Prince was crowned at *Weſtminſter*.

Remark-

Remarkable *Tranſactions* during his Minority.

1. In 1547, the *Protector* marched with an Army into *Scotland*, and ſlew near 13000 of his Enemies at *Pinkney-Field*, near *Muſſelborough*. This War, however, coſt *England* near 1,433,000 l.

In the ſame Year an Inſurrection happened in *Norfolk*, fomented by one *Kett*, a Tanner; but it was ſoon ſuppreſſed: for *Dudley*, Earl of *Warwick*, went down with an Army, in *Auguſt*, and ſlew 5000 of his Followers, and on the 20th of *November* following he hanged that Ringleader up in Chains on the Top of *Norwich-Caſtle*.

In 1550, a Peace was concluded with *France*.

In 1551, the *Protector*, being convicted of Felony, in conſpiring to kill the Earl of *Warwick*, then Duke of *Northumberland*, who was a Privy-Counſellor, was beheaded for that Offence, and *Dudley* thereupon procured the Regency.

In 1553, the Duke of *Northumberland* prevailed on the King to appoint his Daughter in-Law, the Lady *Jane Grey*, to be his Succeſſor.

Memorandum.

The young King himſelf encouraged Trade and Commerce, and granted very important Privileges to the Merchants. He likewiſe uſed his beſt Endeavours to eſtabliſh that Reformation in *Scotland*, which his Father had happily begun.

And

And ſome ſhort Time before his Death, he founded St. *Bartholomew*'s Hoſpital, and made ſeveral very conſiderable Additions and Improvements to *Chriſt*'s-*Church* Hoſpital, and that of St. *Thomas* in the Borough of *Southwark*.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. A Sweating-Sickneſs broke out in this Reign, of which many Perſons died, and particularly the two Sons of *Charles Brandon*, then Duke of *Suffolk*, died within two Hours of each other.
2. Six Dolphins were caught in the *Thames*, the laſt of which was bigger than any Horſe.

His Death *and* Burial.

In the Year 1558, this Prince died, unmarried, in the 16th Year of his Age, of a lingering Conſumption, at his Houſe at *Greenwich* in *Kent*, but was afterwards interred at *Weſtminſter-Abbey*.

His Character.

He had a great Genius, as had been before hinted. To this we may add, that he underſtood the Intereſt of his Kingdom perfectly well. However, he was of ſo ſweet and mild a Diſpoſition, and ſo averſe to all Thoughts of Perſecution, that he would not ſuffer any Perſon (be his Principles what they would) to be put to Death, on Account of his Sentiments in regard to Religion.

MARY I. *the* XLIId *Monarch of* England, France, *and* Ireland, *Defender of the Faith. From* 1553, *to* 1558.

Her CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

When Bloody Mary *fill'd the* Engliſh *Throne,*
The Good her Brother *did, was ſoon undone;*
Through her ſhort Reign, tho' much too long, was ſeen,
A wicked Bigot, and a cruel Queen.

MARY I. the XLII Monarch of *England*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith.

Her Cotemporaries.

Popes.		Emperor.	
Julius III.	1550.	*Charles* V.	1519.
Marcellus II.	1555.	King of *France*	
Paul IV.	1555.	*Henry* II.	1547.

Her Birth *and* Parentage.

MARY *TUDOR*, the only Daughter of *Henry* VIII. by *Catherine* of *Spain*, was born at *Greenwich*, in the Year 1515.

Her Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

This Princeſs, on the Death of her Brother, ſucceeded him in the Year 1553, notwithſtanding the Council, on the 10th of *July*, had proclaimed the Lady *Jane Grey*.

On the 19th of the ſame Month, however, Queen *Mary* prevailed againſt her, and was proclaimed Queen accordingly. Whereupon, as the Duke of *Northumberland* had been the principal Supporter of Queen *Jane*, his Daughter-in-Law, he was ſent forthwith to the Tower, with three of his Sons; as alſo Dr. *Ridley*, Biſhop of *London*.

In *Auguſt* 1553, Biſhop *Gardiner* was made Lord Chancellor, and Lord High Steward for the Trial of the aforeſaid Duke and his Sons; and on the 22d of the ſame Month, the Duke was condemned and executed, with ſeveral other Adherents to the Lady *Jane Grey*; and in *October* then following, Queen *Mary* was crowned at *Weſtminſter* with great Pomp and Solemnity.

Her remarkable *Tranſactions* conſequent thereupon.

1. On the 18th of *October* 1553, She repealed all the Statutes, which had been made in King *Edward*'s Reign, and had any Relation to Religion; and on the 3d of *November* following, Archbiſhop *Cranmer*, *Guildford*, *Dudley*, and the Lady *Jane Grey*, his Conſort at that Time, were all condemned for High Treaſon.

2. In 1552, a Rebellion was fomented by one Sir *Thomas Wyat*, but that Conſpiracy not ſucceeding, *Wyat* was beheaded on the 11th of *April*; and the next Day, the Lady *Jane*, together with her Huſband and Father, were executed as Traitors to the Crown; and on the 23d, the Princeſs *Elizabeth*, the Queen's Siſter, was confined in the Tower.

Her Marriage.

3. Prince *Philip*, arriving in *England* on the 19th of *July* then next following, their Nuptials were ſolemnized with great Pomp and Magnificence at *Wincheſter* on the 29th.

Her

Her remarkable *Tranſactions* after that Intermarriage.

1. She ſet all the *Roman* Catholics at Liberty, in the firſt Place, and prohibited the Exerciſe of any other Religion whatſoever. She reſtored likewiſe the Popiſh Prelates to their Sees, and deprived ſeveral of the reformed Biſhops.

2. Soon after, Cardinal *Pole* came into *England*, and a New Parliament being called, both Houſes ſuppreſſed the Reformed Religion.

3. After this, She ruled over the Proteſtants with a Rod of Iron, and burnt thoſe who were their warmeſt Advocates.

Her Tranſactions Abroad.

1. After theſe violent Proceedings at Home, She entered into an Alliance with *Spain* againſt *France*, and ſent over 8000 Men to the Aſſiſtance of the *Spaniards* in the *Low Countries*.

2. In 1558, *Calais* was ſurrendered to the *French*, notwithſtanding it had been in Poſſeſſion of the *Engliſh* 200 Years.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. The great *Harry*, the largeſt Man of War at that Time in *England*, being 1000 Tons Burthen, was accidentally burnt, in her Firſt Year.
2. In her Second, we are told of a Rainbow reverſed, and two Suns ſhining at a good Diſtance from each other.
3. Her 4th Year was remarkable both for

great Scarcity and great Plenty; for Wheat, which, before Harveſt, was ſold for 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per Quarter, was ſold, after Harveſt, for no more than 5*s.*

Her Death *and* Burial.

She died of a Complication of Diſtempers, occaſioned, as ſome ſay, for Grief, after a Life of 43 Years, and a Reign of 5 Years, 4 Months, and 11 Days. She was interred in *Henry* the VIIth. Chapel but without any Monument to her Remembrance.

Her Character.

She had ſome good Qualities; but they were all either eclipſed or ſhaded by her Bigotry. She was perfectly cruel, and revengeful to the laſt Degree. As to the Management of State-affairs, She diſcovered but very little Capacity for it; and the Loſs of *Calais* will be an everlaſting Blot to her Memory. Her Reign was one continued Scene of Tyranny, wherein She inhumanly murdered great Numbers of her innocent Subjects; and the only Happineſs attending her Reign, was the Shortneſs of it.

Her Reign, in a Word, was a Proof, that a Popiſh Prince can neither enjoy, nor confer Happineſs in the Government of a Proteſtant People.

ELIZA-

ELIZABETH, *the* XLIIId *Monarch, of* England, France *and* Ireland, *Defender of the Faith. From* 1558 *to* 1603.

Her CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

The fam'd Eliza's *long and glorious Reign*
Quell'd Romiſh *Superſtition, humbled* Spain:
Invaſions, Plots, her Genius ſoar'd above;
Happy in Servants, and her Subjects Love.

ELIZABETH, the XLIIId Monarch of *England*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith.

Her COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors.	
Paul IV.	1555.	*Ferdinand* I.	1558.
Pius IV.	1559.	*Maximilian* II.	1564.
Pius V.	1565.	*Rodolphus* II.	1576.
Gregory XIII.	1572.	Kings of *France*.	
Sixtus V.	1585.	*Henry* II.	1547.
Urban VII.	1590.	*Francis* II.	1559.
Gregory XIV.	1590.	*Charles* IX.	1560.
Innocent IX.	1591.	*Henry* III.	1574.
Clement VIII.	1592.	*Henry* IV.	1589.

Her Birth *and* Parentage.

ELIZABETH TUDOR was the only Daughter of *Henry* VIIIth by *Anne Bullen*, and born at *Greenwich* in 1533.

Her Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

On the 15th of *January* 1558, ſhe was crowned at *Weſtminſter*, with great Pomp and Solemnity.

Tho' this Reign was a long and glorious One; yet in order to keep up as ſtrictly as poſſible to our firſt intended Brevity, we ſhall endeavour

deavour to collect the moſt *memorable Paſſages* of it into the following *Memorandums*.

Memorandums.

1. As this illuſtrious Princeſs was, in the Bloom of her Youth, acquainted with Sorrows, and for 12 Months ſucceſſively a cloſe Priſoner in the Tower, it is no Wonder, that on her ſudden Eſcape from thence, through the Death of her Siſter, that ſhe was paſſionately fond of Liberty without Controul.

2. It was owing, in all Probability, to that peculiar Love of Freedom, that ſhe peremptorily declared, when ſhe was warmly preſt by her Parliament to marry, that it was her firm Reſolution to live and die their *Virgin-Queen*.

3. Notwithſtanding that abſolute Declaration, it is generally thought, that by her more than common Eſteem for *Robert Dudley*, whom ſhe created Earl of *Leiceſter*, and the Earl of *Eſſex*, on whom ſhe beſtowed ſeveral very important Poſts, that ſhe was not altogether, in her Heart, inſenſible to Love; but upon their growing proud and inſolent, ſhe ſhewed, that ſhe had Spirit enough, not only to mortify their Ambition, but to cut them off, tho' at the ſame Time ſhe gave the ſevereſt Check to the Violence of her own Inclinations.

4. Tho' her ſevere Proceeding againſt *Mary* Queen of *Scots*, was one of the greateſt Blots in her Reign; yet, as there were, at leaſt, ſome ſeemingly juſt Grounds for her Jealouſy and Reſentment, we are willing to

hope, that Action was pardonable, tho', doubtleſs, highly blame-worthy.

5. She was involved in few Wars of any great Moment, that with *Spain* only excepted, who, in 1588, ſet out their *invincible Armada*, as they haughtily ſtiled it, to invade *England*; but Providence very viſibly appeared in her Favour; and by a violent Storm deſtroyed ſuch a Number of their Ships, that they returned Home without making any Attempt to land upon her Coaſts.

6. After that miraculous Preſervation, ſhe maintained *England*, for many Years together, in a State of perfect Peace and Tranquility.

7. As ſhe aſſumed the Character of Head and Supreme Governeſs of the Proteſtant Church, both in Spirituals and Temporals, 'tis no Wonder, that her implacable Enemies, the *Jeſuits*, were frequently forming private Conſpiracies againſt her Life; but ſuch was her Dexterity and Addreſs, that ſhe always made a timely Diſcovery of their helliſh Machinations, and, conſequently, made Examples of the Ring-leaders, and ruled the Reſt with a Rod of Iron, according to their Demerits.

8. As ſhe never married, and conſequently had no Iſſue, in her ended the *Line* of the *Tudors*, which began in her Grandfather.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this long Reign.*

1. In her 5th Year, there died in *London*, and in the Parts adjacent, no leſs than 23,660 Per-

Perſons; of whom 20,136 were of the Plague.

2. That Plague was followed by a great Famine, and an Earthquake.
3. In 1567, the *Royal Exchange* in *Cornhill* was erected at the Expence of Sir *Thomas Greſham*, the Merchants before meeting in the open Street.
4. In this Reign there were divers other unuſual Events, which our intended Brevity obliges us to paſs over in Silence.

Her Death *and* Burial.

In *March*, 1602, this illuſtrious Queen was taken ill, and appointed *James* VI. King of *Scots*, to be her Succeſſor.

In the ſame Month, ſhe died at the Age of 69 Years, ſix Months, and ſeven Days, after a Reign of 40 Years, four Months, and eight Days.

She was buried in *Henry* the VIIth's Chapel, where King *James*, her Succeſſor, erected a ſtately Monument to her Memory.

Her Character.

She was looked upon as tolerably handſome, and her Air was noble and majeſtic; but what ſhe was more pe liarly valued and regarded for, was, hei courteous and affable Deportment to all her Proteſtant Subjects, which made them almoſt adore her. As to her mental Qualities, ſhe was a great Scholar, and had a great Share of Wit; her Judgment was

was found, and she was universally allowed to be an excellent Œconomist. She talked several Languages, with the same Fluency as her Mother Tongue, and was so perfect a Politician, that she was the Admiration of all foreign Princes.

JAMES I. *King of* England, Scotland, France, *and* Ireland, *Defender of the Faith*, &c. *From* 1602 *to* 1625.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

England's *firſt* Stuart *from the* Scotian *Clime*;
Learn'd, but pedantic; peaceful to a Crime:
His weak, yet arbitrary Acts prepare
A Scene of Ills for his ſucceeding Heir.

JAMES I. King of *England*, *Scotland*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c. the first of the Surname of *Stuart*, and the first of *Great-Britain*.

Note, *The Crowns of* Scotland *and* England *are from hence-forward united.*

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors.	
Clement VIII.	1592.	*Rodolphus* II.	1576.
Leo IX.	1605.	*Mathias* I.	1612.
Paul III.	1605.	*Ferdinand* II.	1619.
Gregory XV.	1621.	Kings of *France*.	
Urban VIII.	1623.	*Henry* IV.	1589.
		Lewis XIII.	1610.

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS wise and peaceful Prince, who was the Son of the unfortunate *Mary*, Queen of *Scots*, whom Queen *Elizabeth* had, through Jealousy, cut off, and *Henry Stuart*, the Lord *Darnley*, was born in the Castle of *Edinburgh* on the 19th of *June* 1566.

His Marriage, *and* Issue, *Male and Female.*

This Prince (by the Recommendation of Queen

Queen *Elizabeth)* intermarried with *Anne*, the Daughter of *Frederic* II. King of *Denmark* and *Norway*, in the 16th Year of her Age, with whom he lived very happily, and in good Correſpondence with Queen *Elizabeth*, as the only Way to ſecure the Crown, ſhe having a little before her Death declared him her Succeſſor.

By her he had Iſſue Male, 1. *Henry*. 2. *Robert*, who died young. And, 3. *Charles*. His Female Iſſue were named *Elizabeth*, *Margaret*, *Mary*, and *Sophia*, who all died young.

His Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

On the 15th of *July* 1603 (being the Feſtival of his Name-ſake St. *James)* he and his Queen were crowned at *Weſtminſter*, by Archbiſhop *Whitgift*, with great Solemnity and Magnificence.

Memorandums.

1. As this wiſe and peaceable Prince never entered into any Wars either at *Home* or *Abroad*, thro' his natural Puſillanimity; and as his Subjects lived, during his whole Reign, in one continued Scene of Peace and Tranquility, he employed his Time in a widely different Manner from moſt of his Predeceſſors, that is to ſay, in the Study of controverſial Divinity; and ſo fond was he of that Part of his Title, the *Defender of the Faith*, that he not only wrote, but publiſhed, ſeveral very learned Tracts, in order to put an End to the religious Debates, which at that Time ran high, between

tween those who were Advocates for Episcopal Government, and the then Dissenters from the Established Church.

2. His principal Favourites were *Robert Carr*, the then Earl of *Somerset*, and *George Villers*, then Duke of *Buckingham*.

3. The two most conspicuous of his Subjects for their extraordinary Learning, were Sir *Walter Raleigh*, who wrote the universally admired History of the World, and the then Lord Chancellor *Bacon*; but the Execution of the former, at the Instigation of *Gundamore*, the *Spanish* Ambassador, will be an eternal Blemish on this Reign.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In his first Year, there was a great Plague, which lasted from *December* 1602 to the same Month in 1603, and carried off 30,578 Persons, of whom 3090 died in one Week.
2. In his second Year, was discovered the execrable Gun-powder Plot, by which the Destruction of King and Parliament, with one Blast, was concerted. Sir *Everard Digby*, *Catesby*, *Guy Faux*, and several others, were executed on that Occasion.
3. In his 3d Year, a great *Porpus*, and not long after that, a *Whale* was taken in the *Thames*, not far from *London*.
4. In his 4th Year, the *Severn* overflowed its Banks, and caused a prodigious Inundation in the Counties of *Glouceſter* and *Somerset*.

5. In

5. In his 6th Year, there was a remarkable Froſt, which began in *December* and laſted, without Intermiſſion till the *April* following.
6. In 1613, the Town of *Dorcheſter* was entirely conſumed by Fire; and tho' it did 200,000*l.* Damage, there was not one human Life loſt.
7. In this Reign, a new Tranſlation of the Bible was made, which is the ſame Verſion that is now in Uſe.

His Death *and* Burial.

This King *James* died at *Theobalds* in *Hertfordſhire*, on the 27th of *March*, 1625, of a tertian Ague, in the 60th Year of his Age, after having been King of *Scotland* 59 Years, three Months, and twelve Days; and of *England*, 22 Years, and three Days. A ſtately Mauſoleum was erected in *Weſtminſter-Abbey* at his funeral Obſequies.

His Character.

He was a Pedant in Literature, and buſied himſelf more in School-Controverſies than the Arts of Government. He was ſometimes zealous for Religion to a Fault; and at others as much too lukewarm. He was juſt the Reverſe of his great Predeceſſor in Point of Temper. For Queen *Elizabeth* being very imperious and very artful, and he ſo weak, and ſo pacific, his Enemies (by Way of Ridicule) were uſed to call her Reign, the Reign of King *Elizabeth*, and his, that of Queen *James*.

CHARLES I. *the* XLVth *King of* England, France, *&c. and the Second of* Great Britain. *From* 1625 *to* $164\frac{8}{9}$.

Her CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Unhappy Prince! his Fate atones his Fault;
Not weak, but obſtinate, and badly taught:
Our Conſtitution, *hurt by lawleſs Deeds,*
Is quite ſuſpended, when the Monarch *bleeds.*

CHARLES I. the XLVth King of *England*, *France* and *Ireland*; and the Second of *Great-Britain*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperors.	
Urban VIII.	1623.	*Ferdinand* II.	1619.
Innocent X.	1644.	*Ferdinand* III.	1657.
Kings of *France*.			
Lewis XIII.	1610.		
Lewis XIV.	1643.		

His Birth and Education.

THIS Unhappy Prince, who was the third Son of King *James* I. was born at *Dumferling* in *Scotland*, on the 19th of *November*, 1600.

His Marriage *and* Iſſue.

On the 11th of *May* 1625, this Prince intermarried with the Princeſs *Henrietta Maria*, the youngeſt Daughter of *Henry* the IVth of *France*, and their Nuptials were ſolemnized at *Paris*, the Duke of *Chevreux* acting as the King's Proxy. On the 13th of *June*, then following, the Queen landed at *Dover*, where King *Charles* met her, and conducted her from thence directly to *Canterbury*, and there the Marriage was conſummated that very Night. By this Queen, in Proceſs of Time he had four

Sons and five Daughters, *viz.* 1. *Charles-James*, born at *Greenwich*, 1628, but died as ſoon as chriſtened. 2. *Charles*, who ſucceeded to the Crown. 3. *James*, likewiſe his Succeſſor. 4. *Henry*, afterwards, Duke of *Glouceſter*. —— Daughters: 1. *Mary*. 2. *Elizabeth*. 3. *Anne*. 4. *Catherine*, who died almoſt as ſoon as born. And 5. *Henrietta*.

His Coronation.

On the 2d of *February*, $162\frac{5}{6}$, he was crowned at *Weſtminſter* with the uſual Solemnities.

His remarkable Tranſactions *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. Soon after his Marriage, he declared War againſt *Spain*, in order to take *Cadiz*; but that Project failed.

2. At the Solicitation of his Favourite, the Duke of *Buckingham*, he ſent him with 100 Sail of Ships from *Portſmouth* to *Rochelle* in *France*, in order to ſuccour the Proteſtants there, who were threatned with a Siege: But the poor diſtreſſed Proteſtants met with no Relief from that intended Expedition, the Duke being killed by one *Felton*, a Lieutenant of Foot, at *Portſmouth* before the Fleet had ſet Sail.

3. He entered into a War with the *Scots*, who, through their Diſcontents, at laſt brought him to a moſt unworthy End.

4. In the Year 1640, his *Parliament* declared open War againſt him, and entered into a Combination with the *Scotch* Rebels, in order to introduce a popular Government.

5. In

5. In 1642, he ſent out Prince *Rupert*, his Nephew, with a conſiderable Army againſt thoſe his rebellious Subjects; but they were routed at *Marſton-Moor*, by the Earl of *Manchester*, who then headed the Forces belonging to the Parliament.

6. On the 14th of *June*, 1645, he headed an Army himſelf againſt thoſe Rebels; but had the Mortification to be defeated at *Naiſbury*, by the Lord *Fairfax*.

7. Soon after that Defeat, he withdrew to *Wales*; from thence to *Oxford*; and at laſt, as his *derniere Reſorte*, he went over to the *Scotch* Army; but even amongſt them he was, in Effect, no better than a Priſoner; and, in ſhort, not long afterwards they delivered him up (for a large Sum of Money) to the *Commiſſioners* of the *Parliament*, who impriſoned him firſt in *Hampton-Court*: But making his Eſcape from thence, he fled to the Iſle of *Wight*, where he was ſoon ſeized by a Party of *Oliver Cromwell*'s Soldiers, who carried him firſt to *Hurſt Caſtle*, from thence to *Windſor*, and at laſt to St. *James's Palace*.

8. Soon after his Arrival at St. *James*'s, the Houſe of Commons eſtabliſhed a pretended High Court of Juſtice, in order to bring his Cauſe to a formal Trial; at which General *Fairfax*, *Oliver Cromwel*, and *Henry Ireton*, Eſq; with about 150 more, were ſo preſumptuous as to ſit as Judges; and one *Bradſhaw*, as Preſident of that wicked Tribunal.

9. Tho' the King, indeed, never would acknowledge the Authority of that Court; yet they would hearken to no Reaſon for his Refuſal; and after drawing up ſeveral Articles of Impeachment againſt him, but particularly that for fomenting the Rebellion in *Ireland*, where no leſs than 40,000 *Engliſh* had been maſſacred; and being tried, in Form, upon theſe Articles of Impeachment, he was found guilty and condemned to be beheaded, as a Tyrant, a Traitor, a Murderer, and the public Enemy of his People.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In his firſt Year, a violent Plague broke out in *London*, which proved more fatal than that which happened in his Father's Reign.
2. In his ſecond Year, great Earthquakes were felt in divers Parts of the Kingdom.
3. In the Year 1631, moſt of the Houſes on *London-Bridge*, which before made a beautiful Street, were burnt to the Ground.

His Death and Burial.

On *Tueſday* the 30th of *January*, 164$\frac{8}{9}$, the fatal Stroke, purſuant to the Sentence paſt but three Days before, was given by an Executioner who was maſked, and unknown; but many have conjectured, that either *Oliver Cromwel* or *Ireton*, was the Man.

After this mercileſs Execution, his Body was expoſed to public View for ſome Days in one of the Apartments at *White-hall*; and afterwards carried to *Windſor*, where his mangled

led Remains were interred in St. *George*'s Chapel, with only a plain Inſcription on the Plate of his Coffin.

Memorandums.

1. It was neither the *Scotch*, nor the *Preſbyterians*, nor the *Parliament*, but the *Independents*, that put this Prince to Death.

2. His Majeſty was attended at the Time of his Martyrdom by Dr. *Juxton*, then Biſhop of *London*; at which Time he openly declared, that he died a Proteſtant of the Church of *England*, and denied that he had any ill Deſigns againſt his People.

3. His Deportment upon the Scaffold was very decent; and he ſubmitted to the Axe with the utmoſt Intrepidity and Reſignation to the divine Will.

His Character.

He was religious, chaſte, courteous, and intrepid. He had a great Penetration and a ſound Judgment. By ſome, indeed, he was looked upon as a weak Prince, entirely governed by his Conſort, and, one who was his peculiar Favourite; by whoſe Perſuaſions he carried ſuch Schemes into Execution as made his Subjects firſt murmur, and at laſt break out into open Rebellion againſt him.

CHARLES II. *the* XLVIth *King of* England, France, &c. *and the* 3*d of* Great-Britain. *From* 1649 *nominally*; *actually from* 1660 *to* 1685.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Gay, ſprightly, heedleſs, affable, and lewd;
In Charles's *Court few Cares did long intrude:*
But Popiſh Influence ſtain'd his latter Day,
With Plots and Fines, and arbitrary Sway.

CHARLES II. The XLVIth King of *England*, *France*, and *Ireland*, and the Third of *Great-Britain*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperor.	
Alexander VII.	1655.	*Leopold.*	1658.
Clement IX.	1667.	King of *France.*	
Clement X.	1670.	*Lewis* XIV.	1643.
Innocent XI.	1676.		

Preliminary Memorandums.

1. THIS Prince was only a nominal Monarch from the Year 1649 to 1660. For,

2. The *Interregnum*, or *Uſurpation* was continued all that Time, in the firſt Place, under the Title of the *Common-wealth*; then under *Oliver Cromwell*, as *Protector*; and at his Deceaſe, under *Richard*, his eldeſt Son, as *Protector* likewiſe.

3. On his Reſignation, the Government was, for a Time, in a perfect State of Anarchy and Confuſion, till Monarchy at laſt, thro' the Aid and Aſſiſtance of General *Monk*, once more regained its Place.

4. In regard to *Oliver*, the moſt implacable of his Enemies would readily allow, that tho'

tho' he was a very wicked, yet, at the ſame Time, he was a very great Man.

5. As to his Son *Richard*, tho' he was actually declared *Protector*; yet not having either the Spirit or Abilities of his Father, he ſoon reſigned the Title he had aſſumed.

6. Tis highly probable, that neither he, nor his Brother *Henry*, who was at that Time, Lieutenant of *Ireland*, and was greatly beloved there, and was much more able to have ſupported the Burden of that high Poſt, in Reality approved of their Father's Uſurpation, and for that Reaſon gave Way to thoſe Powers which roſe up to ſupplant them; for Both of them, 'tis well known, were not only ſuffered to ſpend their Days in Peace after the *Reſtoration*, but had many Inſtances of Reſpect ſhewn them by the Royal Family.

His Birth *and* Parentage.

This *Charles* II. who was the eldeſt Son of *Charles* I. and his Queen *Henrietta*, was born in the Year 1630 at St. *James*'s Palace.

His various Misfortunes *during his* Minority *and* Exile.

1. At twelve Years of Age, he was, with his Father, at the Battle of *Edge-hill*; and at ſeventeen, he appeared at the Head of an Army in the Weſt; whence from *Cornwall* he was tranſported to the Iſland of *Scilly*; from thence to *Jerſey*; and afterwards to the Queen, his Mother, in *France*.

2. In

2. In the Year 1648, he made an Attempt to reſcue his Father, who was then a Priſoner in the Iſle of *Wight*; but that well-intended Project proved ineffectual.

3. An Act was paſt by the then rebellious Parliament for his Excluſion of the Crown.

4. Tho' he was ſaluted as King in *Holland*; and from thence went into *Scotland*, in the Year 1650, and ſoon after his Arrival was crowned at *Scone*; yet finding that Fortune was impropitious to him there; he marched ſoon afterwards into *England*; but *Cromwell* met with him at *Worceſter*, and ſo totally defeated him there, that he was obliged to wander about the Kingdom in Diſguiſe for ſix Weeks together; 'till at laſt, thro' imminent Dangers, he arrived ſafe at *Havre de Grace*, in *France*, where he was treated, indeed, as King of *Great Britain* for ſeveral Years, till *Cromwell*, thro' his Influence, procured his Removal from that Kingdom.

5. From thence he roved all over *Germany*, *Spain*, and *Flanders*, in a very melancholy Manner, till in the Year 1660, thro' the good Providence of the Almighty, he was happily reſtored.

His Coronation.

On the 22d of *April* 1661, he was crowned at *Weſtminſter* with great Pomp and Solemnity, and the univerſal Acclamations of the People.

His remarkable Tranſactions, *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. He paſſed an *Act* of *Indemnity*, with an *Exception* againſt 29 of his Father's Judges, who were all ſentenced to die, tho' no more than ten of them were actually executed; the Reſt being reſerved for other Puniſhments according to their Demerits.

2. After that, he ſettled all Matters on the ſame Footing as they ſtood before the Year 1640.

3. Tho' he engaged in ſome foreign Wars, and firſt with the *Dutch*, in which he proved ſucceſsful; and afterwards with the *French* and *Danes*; yet on the 29th of *June*, 1667, a Peace was concluded with them all at *Breda*.

His Marriage and Iſſue.

This Monarch intermarried with *Catherine*, the Daughter of *Don Juan* IV. then King of *Portugal*, with whom he had about two Millions of *Cruſades*, that is, about 300,000*l*. *Sterling*, for her Portion. Tho' he had no Iſſue by her, it is true; yet, by his Concubines, who were numerous, he left a long Train of Sons and Daughters behind him.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. On the 3d of *September*, 1658, being the Night that *Oliver* died, there was a moſt violent Tempeſt of Wind, ſuch as has not been ſince equalled, except by the Storm on the 26th of *November*, 1703.
2. In 1665, a dreadful Plague ſwept away no leſs

leſs than 80,000 Perſons in the City of *London*.

3. In 1666, 13,200 Houſes, beſides 89 Churches, *&c.* were conſumed by Fire.
4. In 1683, there was a moſt ſevere Froſt, which began in *November*, and laſted till the 5th of *February*.

His Death *and* Burial.

This King died on the 6th of *February*, 168$\frac{4}{5}$, not without Suſpicion of Poiſon, in the 55th Year of his Age, after an actual Reign of 24 Years, eight Months, and nine Days. He was interred in *Weſtminſter-Abbey*, where his Figure, in Wax, fully dreſſed, is ſtill to be ſeen.

His Character.

He was exceedingly courteous and complaiſant, and perfectly eaſy in Converſation. He was a Man of a ſprightly Genius, a clear Conception, and a ſound Judgment. He underſtood the Good of his Country much better than any of his ableſt Miniſters: His two principle Foibles were his Liberality to his Friends, which was almoſt boundleſs, and his Affection for the Fair Sex, which was almoſt univerſal.

JAMES II. *the* XLVIIth *King of* England, France, *&c. and the Fourth of* Great Britain. *From* 1685 to 1688.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Blinded with Zeal, this furious, popiſh King
Rome's *Yoke on* England *ſought again to bring:*
He, whilſt he reign'd, uſurp'd a lawleſs Sway,
Till William *came, and open'd Freedom's Day.*

JAMES II. the XLVIIth. King of *England*, *France*, &c. and the Fourth of *Great-Britain*.

His COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperor	
Innocent XI.	1676.	*Leopold.*	1678.
King of *France.*			
Lewis XIV.	1643.		

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS Prince, the third Son of King *Charles* I. and only ſurviving Brother of King *Charles* II. was born on the 14th of *October* 1633.

Some remarkable Tranſactions *during his Minority.*

1. After the Surrender of *Oxford*, he was conveyed to *London*, by the *Long Parliament*, and committed to *Algernoon*, Earl of *Northumberland*, from whom, however, he made his Eſcape in Women's Apparel, and thereupon was firſt conveyed beyond-ſea, by Col. *Bampfield*, to *Dort* in *Holland*, and afterwards to *Paris*.

2. Before he was of Age, he ſerved under the Marſhal *Turenne*, and became a Lieutenant General in the *French* King's Army.

3. Being obliged, however, thro' the Influence of *Oliver Cromwell*, to depart from *France*, he travelled from thence to *Flanders*, where Don *John* of *Auſtria* offering him, in the Name of the *Spaniſh* King, all poſſible Aſſiſtance, his Royal Highneſs took Arms under him againſt the *French*.

4. In 1660, he came over to *England*, and was ſoon after inſtalled *Knight* of the *Garter*.

5. In 1665, being then Lord High Admiral of *England*, he commanded the Naval War againſt the *Dutch*, and obtained a ſignal Victory over them.

His Marriages *and* Iſſue.

This unfortunate Prince (whilſt Duke of *York*) married two Wives; firſt the Lady *Anne*, the eldeſt Daughter of *Edward Hyde*, then Earl of *Clarendon*, and High Chancellor of *England*; by whom he had Iſſue, 1. *Charles*, of *York*. 2. *James* of *York*. 3. *Charles* Duke of *Kendal*. And, 4. *Edgar*, Duke of *Cambridge*; but all died in their Infancy. He had, by the ſame Queen, 1. *Mary* of *York*, afterwards Queen of *England*. 2. *Anne* of *York*. 3. *Henrietta* of *York*. And, 4. *Catherine* of *York*.

His ſecond Wife (whom he likewiſe married whilſt Duke of *York*) was the Lady *Mary d'Eſte*, the Daughter of *Alphonſo d'Eſte*, Duke of *Modena*. By her he had the following Iſſue; *viz.* 1. *Charles* of *York*. 2. *Catherine-Laura*. 3. *Iſabella* of *York*. 4. *Charlotte-*

lotte-Maria of *York*; but all died in their Infancy. And, 5. *James Francis-Edward*, a Son, of whom it was ſaid the Queen was delivered at St. *James*'s, on *Sunday* the 10th of *June* 1688.

Beſides theſe, he had ſeveral natural Children by Mrs. *Arabella Churchill*, the Siſter of *John Churchill*, the Great Duke of *Marlborough*.

His Acceſſion *to the Throne and* Coronation.

This *James*, the Second of *England*, and the Seventh of *Scotland*, was proclaimed King on the 6th of *February*, 1615, and crowned the 23d of *April* following, with the uſual Solemnities.

His moſt remarkable Tranſactions *after his Coronation.*

1. He ſummoned two Parliaments; one to meet in *England* and the other in *Scotland*; and Both anſwered his moſt ſanguine Expectations.

2. As a Party ſet up the Duke of *Monmouth*, one of the natural Sons of King *Charles* II. in order to oppoſe him, he ſacrificed the Duke to his Reſentment; and on the 15th of *July* 1685, he was beheaded on *Tower-hill*; and about 400 more loſt their Lives, in Town and Country, on Account of that Rebellion.

His violent and arbitrary Proceedings *after the Suppreſſion of that Rebellion.*

1. In the firſt Place, he attempted to ſet himſelf above the Laws. And in the next, he uſed his utmoſt Endeavours to change the eſtabliſhed Religion.

2. In 1687, he publiſhed a Declaration for granting Liberty of Conſcience to People of all Perſuaſions; but finding that the *Engliſh Parliament* would by no Means aſſent thereto, he inſtantly diſſolved them.

3. Soon after, he uſed his utmoſt Endeavours to reconcile his *three Kingdoms* to the *Holy See*; and acted, in ſhort, ſo openly in favour of the *Roman Catholics*, that the *Epiſcopalians* united with the *Diſſenters*, and came to an abſolute Reſolution to ſet the Prince of *Orange* on the Throne.

4. Upon that Prince's Approach, he made his Eſcape into *France*, having ſent his Queen and his pretended Son thither ſome Time before; which Flight of his was, in Fact, the End of his Reign; for he ſpent the Remaining 12 Years of his Life in Exile at St. *Germain en Laye*.

Memorandums.

1. A Rumour was raiſed at the Cloſe of his Reign, which ſpread in 24 Hours all over the Kingdom, that an Army of *Iriſh* was landed, and juſt at Hand at every Place where the Report was propogated; which was ſuch a political Wonder, as was never well accounted for.

2. After an *Interregnum* for the Space of two Months only, the *Lords* and *Commons*, after many and long Debates, RESOLVED, that the Prince and Princeſs of *Orange* ſhould be King and Queen of *Great Britain*.

His

His Death *and* Burial.

On the 16th of *September*, 1701, he died of a Lethargy in the 68th Year of his Age, and was interred ſoon afterwards in the Monaſtery of the *Benedictines* in *Paris*.

His Character.

He was an indulgent Father, a loving Huſband, and a kind Maſter; and had it not been for his wicked Miniſters, would have proved a good King. He was a religious Prince; but by Profeſſion a *Roman Catholic*, which was the Foundation of all his Misfortunes.

WILLIAM III. *and* MARY II. *the* XLVIIIth *King and Queen of* England, France, &c. *and (together) the fifth Monarch of* Great Britain. *From* 1688 *to* 1702.

Their CHARACTERS, *in* memorial Verſes.

William, *the Hero, with* Maria *mild,*
(He, James's *Nephew, She, his eldeſt Child)*
Fix'd Freedom and the Church, reform'd the Coin,
Oppos'd the French, *and ſettl'd* Brunſwick's *Line.*

WILLIAM III. and MARY II. King of *England*, *France*, &c. and (together) the Fifth Monarch of *Great-Britain*.

Their COTEMPORARIES.

Popes.		Emperor.	
Innocent XI.	1676.	*Leopold.*	1659.
Alexander VIII.	1689.	King of *France.*	
Innocent XII.	1691.	*Lewis* XIV.	1643.

His Birth, Parentage *and* Education.

THIS Prince was the Son of *William* of *Naſſau*, Prince of *Orange*, &c. and born on the 24th of *November*, 1650. When he had attained to the 18th Year of his Age, he was ſent to the Univerſity of *Leyden*; and in 1670 the States of *Holland* committed their Armies to his Conduct in ſeveral Campaigns, in which he juſtly gained the Character of a very able and experienced General.

His Marriage.

He very happily intermarried with the Lady *Mary* of *York*, on the 4th of *November* 1677.

Memorandum.

1. That Princeſs, who was the eldeſt Daughter of King *James* II. was born the 30th of *April* 1662. She was a Lady of great Beauty and

and eminent Virtue; but died of the Small Pox on the 28th Day of *December* 1694.

His Coronation.

On the 11th of *April* 1689, they were crowned at *Westminster* by the then Bishop of *London*, with the usual Solemnities.

His remarkable Transactions *both at* Home *and* Abroad.

1. A Bill was forthwith passed into a Law both in *England* and *Scotland*, which set forth at large the Rights and Privileges of the People.

2. As the greatest Part of the *Irish* were Papists, King *James* was sent into *Ireland* with a *French* Army to join and support his Friends, and actually got into Possession of *Dublin*, &c. King *William*, however, putting himself at the Head of his Army, soon obliged the Abdicated Monarch to return to *France*; and in about two Years afterwards, *Ireland* submitted entirely to the *Revolution*.

3. In this War, the most remarkable *Actions* were 1. The Battle of the *Boyne*, in which the *English* obtained a complete Victory. 2. The Battle of *Aghrim*, wherein General *Ginckel*, defeated St. *Ruth*. 3. The brave Defence of *Londonderry*. 4. The Reduction of *Cork*, by the Earl of *Marlborough*. 5. and lastly, the two Sieges of *Limerick*, by the last of which the Place was reduced, and the *French* compelled entirely to evacuate that Kingdom.

4. King *William*, imagining the Liberties

of

of *Europe* in great Danger from the violent Efforts of *Lewis* XIVth, formed a *grand Confederacy*, at the latter End of the Year 1689, in order to withſtand that *Invader*.

5. Several Battles were fought between the *French* and *Engliſh* between the Years 1689 and 1697 with various Succeſs: Thoſe, however, of *Steinkirk* and *Landen* in 1692 and 1693 were the moſt remarkable.

6. In 1695, he laid ſiege to *Namur*, which tho' then ſaid to be impregnable, was obliged to ſubmit.

7. At laſt, in 1697, the *French*, making Overtures of Peace, and the Terms being accepted, a Treaty was ſoon after concluded at *Ryſwick*.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. Several Conſpiracies were formed, in favour of the abdicated Monarch; but the moſt wicked was the Plot in 1696, to aſſaſſinate King *William* in his Coach: As it happily proved, however, unſucceſsful, the principal Authors of it, met with their Deſerts both on the *Scaffold*, and at *Tyburn*.
2. Several wet Summers in the Reign of this Prince occaſioned a conſiderable Scarcity of Corn for a long Time.
3. All ſuch Money as had been clipped was called in, and new-coined in the Year 1696.

Memorandum.

As King *William* had no Iſſue by his Queen; and as the young hopeful Duke of *Glouceſter*, Son

Son of the Princeſs *Anne* of *Denmark*, died before the King; it was thought highly requiſite, that the Crown ſhould be ſettled in ſuch a Manner as that all *popiſh Claimants* ſhould for ever after be excluded: One of the laſt Acts therefore that King *William* did, was to ſign the *Bill* for that *Settlement* in the *illuſtrious Houſe* of *Hanover*, the neareſt of the Proteſtant Line, and at this Juncture *happily reigning* over us.

His Death *and* Burial.

On the 8th of *March* 170$\frac{1}{2}$, having diſlocated his Collar-bone by a Fall from his Horſe ſome few Days before, he departed this Life, about 8 o'Clock in the Morning, having received the Sacrament ſome few Hours before at the Hands of the then Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*.

At the Time of his Deceaſe, he was in the 14th Year of his Reign, and in the 51ſt Year of his Age.

He was interred near his Queen in *Henry* the VIIth's Chapel, as the Duke of *Glouceſter* had been ſome ſhort Time before.

His Character.

Tho' this Prince was but of ſmall Stature, weak of Conſtitution, and reſerved in Speech; yet he was intrepid to the laſt Degree, and full of Spirits when at the Head of his Armies. He was a firm Proteſtant, a Friend to the Liberties of Mankind, and inflexibly honeſt in all his Purſuits.

ANNE,

ANNE, *the* XLIXth *Monarch of* England, France, &c. *and the* 6*th of* Great-Britain. *From* 1702 *to* 1714.

Her CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Ten Years of Glory, ſhone on Anna's *Reign,*
While Marlborough's *Arms did Victory maintain:*
Nor ſhould Ill-nature brand her cloſing Scene;
For tho' miſled, well-meaning was the Queen.

ANNE, The XLIXth Monarch of *England*, *France*, &c. and the Sixth of *Great-Britain*.

Her COTEMPORARIES.

Pope.		*Joſeph.*	1705.
Clement XI.	1700.	*Charles.*	1711.
Emperors.		King of *France*.	
Leopold.	1658.	*Lewis* XIV.	1643.

Her Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS Princeſs, the ſecond Daughter of *James* II. was born at St. *James*'s on the 6th Day of *February* 166$\frac{4}{5}$.

Her Marriage and Iſſue, Male and Female.

On the 28th of *July* 1683, ſhe was married to his Royal Highneſs Prince *George* of *Denmark*, the ſecond Son of *Frederic* III. King of *Denmark*, in the Royal Chapel at St. *James*'s, by the then Biſhop of *London*, by whom, in Proceſs of Time, ſhe had the following Iſſue, *viz.* 1. A Daughter ſtill-born. 2. Lady *Mary*. 3. Lady *Anne-Sophia*, who both died in their Infancy. 4. *William* Duke of *Glouceſter*, born at *Hampton-court* on the 24th of *July* 1689. This hopeful Prince, however, died on the 30th of *July* 1700, at the Age of eleven Years and

and five Days, to the great Grief of his Parents, and all good Men, who were well-wiſhers to the Proteſtant Religion. 5. Lady *Mary*, who died an Infant. 6. *George*, another Son, who died ſoon after he was baptized.

Her Acceſſion *to the* Throne.

On the 23d of *April* 1702, ſhe was crowned Queen of *England*, &c. at *Weſtminſter*, with the uſual Solemnities, by the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*.

Her firſt remarkable Tranſactions *after her* Coronation.

On the 4th of *May* 1702, a Declaration of War was iſſued out againſt *France* and *Spain*; the Reſult of which was an uninterrupted Series of Victory and Triumph, for nine Years ſucceſſively, through the Intrepidity and cool Conduct of the immortal Duke of *Marlborough*.

It is very remarkable, however, that the latter Part of this good Queen's Reign was equally unſucceſsful, and attended with nothing but Sorrow and Confuſion, as Parties at that Time, ran very high, and *Oxford* and *Bolingbroke*, when ſeemingly fixed in Power, could not agree between themſelves; and it is generally imagined, that ſhe ſunk under the Grief that oppreſſed her, which was principally created by the Diviſion of her Servants.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. In 1706, there was ſuch an extraordinary Eclipſe of the Sun, that in many Places, it was totally dark.

2. The hard Froſt, which happened in the Winter of 1708, brought on a prodigious Scarcity of Proviſions.

Her Death *and* Burial.

This pious Queen departed this Life at *Kenſington*, on the firſt of *Auguſt* 1714, having lived 49 Years, 5 Months and 6 Days; of which ſhe reigned 12 Years and upwards; ſhe was privately interred ſoon after in *Weſtminſter-Abbey*.

Her Character.

She was an excellent Woman, and poſſeſſed of all the Virtues that in private Life can adorn her Sex. It muſt be allowed likewiſe, that ſhe was a glorious Monarch; ſince the Luſtre of the *Britiſh* Arms was carried higher in her Time than for Ages before; and that whatever has been blamed in her Conduct, ought to be rather looked upon as her Misfortune than her Fault. But what renders her Character ſtill more valuable is this; namely, that ſhe was a true Proteſtant, and ſtrictly pious, without the leaſt Oſtentation.

GEORGE I. *the* Lth *King of* England, France, *&c. and the Seventh of* Great Britain. *From* 1714 *to* 1727.

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

Inur'd alike to Council and the Field,
Before his Sway ſee Oppoſition yield:
In Wiſdom and the Laws he put his Truſt;
Was cautious, ſteady, fortunate, and juſt.

GEORGE I. the Lth King of *England, France, &c.* and the Seventh of *Great-Britain.*

His COTEMPORARIES.

Emperor.		Kings of *France.*	
Charles VI.	1711.	*Lewis* XIV.	1743.
		Lewis XV.	1715.

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS *George Lewis*, the eldeſt Son and Heir of her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs *Sophia*, by his moſt ſerene Highneſs *Erneſt-Auguſt*, Elector of *Brunſwick-Lunenburgh*, commonly called Elector of *Hanover*, was born at *Oſnaburg*, in *Germany*, on the 28th of *May*, 1660.

His Marriage *and* Iſſue.

In the Year 1682, he intermarried with *Sophia-Dorothy*, the Daughter, and only Child of his ſerene Highneſs *George-William*, Duke of *Brunſwick-Zell*, his Uncle, by whom he had Iſſue one Son only; namely, our preſent glorious Monarch, King *George* IId.

His Coronation.

On the 20th of *October* 1714, he was crowned with the uſual Solemnities.

His firſt Tranſactions *on his Arrival in* England.

1. He made a great Change in his Miniſtry, wherein he diſtinguiſhed his Friends from his Foes.

2. In

2. In *April* 1715, there was a grand Conſpiracy againſt him, and all the Royal Family, in order to eſtabliſh the *Pretender*; but that Rebellion was ſoon happily ſuppreſſed; and the principal Ringleaders were beheaded, and divers others executed at *Tyburn* according to their Demerits.

Remarkable Occurrences *in this Reign.*

1. A memorable Eclipſe of the Sun: By which, in *April* 1715, the Sun was ſo totally darkened at *London* for near 3 Minutes and an Half, that the Birds flew to ſhelter, and all Nature ſeemed in Aſtoniſhment.
2. In the Winter of 1715 began a moſt ſevere Froſt on *Chriſtmas-Day*, which continued for three Months ſucceſſively.

His *Death* and *Burial.*

This King was taken ſuddenly ill in his Coach, as he was paying a Viſit to *Hanover*, which Indiſpoſition in a Day or two proved mortal; for he died at *Oſnaburg*, in his Brother's Palace, on the 11th of *June* 1727, in the 13th Year of his Reign, and the 68th Year of his Age; ſoon after, he was interred at *Hanover* among his Anceſtors.

His Character.

His late Majeſty was of a moderate Stature, and extremely well ſet. His Features were regular and manly, and his Countenance grave and majeſtic. The Qualities of his Mind were equalled by very few Princes of his Time, he being an able and experienced General, and a conſummate Politician.

GEORGE

GEORGE II. *the* LIſt *King of* England, France, *&c. and the Eighth of* Great Britain. *From* 1727 *to* 1757.

(*Still reigning, and long may he reign!*)

His CHARACTER, *in* memorial Verſes.

In Iſſue, happieſt of the kingly Strain,
Triumphant o'er Rebellion *and its Train:*
May the ſame Arm his preſent Foes *ſuppreſs,*
And force them to an honourable Peace!

GEORGE II. the LIſt King of *England*, *France*, &c. and the Eighth of *Great-Britain*.

Her COTEMPORARIES.

Emperors.		*Francis Stephen.*	1745.
Charles VI.	1711.	King of *France.*	
Charles VII.	1741.	*Lewis* XV.	1715.

His Birth *and* Parentage.

THIS King *George-Auguſt*, the only Son of *George-Lewis* deceaſed, was born on the 30th of *October*, 1683.

His Marriage *and* Iſſue.

In *September* 1705, he intermarried with the Princeſs *Wilhelmina-Carolina*, the Daughter of *John Frederick*, Marquis of *Brandenburgh Anſpach*, which Princeſs *Wilhelmina* was born the firſt of *March* 1683, and had Iſſue. 1. *Frederick-Lewis*, late Prince of *Wales*, born at *Hanover*, *January* the 31ſt 1706, but died on the 20th of *March* 1751. 2. *Anne*, born *October* the 22d 1709, who intermarried on the 14th of *March* 1734, with *William-Charles-Henry-Friſo*, Prince of *Orange* and *Naſſau*, &c. who died *October* the 11th 1751, and left Iſſue Princeſs *Caroline*, born *February* the 17th 1742; and Prince *William*, the Count de *Buren*, born the

the 8th of *March* 174$\frac{7}{8}$. 3. *Amelia-Sophia*, born the 30th of *May* 1711. 4. *Caroline-Elizabeth*, born the 30th of *May* 1713. 5. A Prince, who died almoſt as ſoon as he was born. 6. *George-William*, born the 2d of *November* 1717, who died the 5th of *February* following. 7. *William-Auguſtus*, Duke of *Cumberland*, born the 15th of *April* 1721. 8. *Mary*, born the 22d of *February* 1723, who intermarried with *Frederic*, the Prince of *Heſſe-Caſſel*, on the 8th of *July* 1740, by whom ſhe has Iſſue a Prince, born the 23d of *May* 1743. And 9. *Louiſa*, born the 7th of *December* 1724, who, in *November* 1743, intermarried with *Frederic*, then Prince Royal, now King of *Denmark*, by whom ſhe had a Prince born in 1745.

Memorandum.

Frederic Lewis, the late Prince of *Wales*, his Majeſty's eldeſt Son, intermarried, in *April* 1736, with *Auguſta*, the Princeſs of *Saxe Gotha*, by whom he left Iſſue. 1. *Auguſta*, born on the 31ſt of *July* 1737. 2. *George-William*, now Prince of *Wales*, born *May* the 24th 1738. 3. *Edward*, born the 14th of *March* 1739. 4. *Elizabeth-Carolina*, born *December* the 30th 1740. 5. *William-Henry*, born *November* the 14th 1743. 6. *Henry-Frederic*, born *October* the 27th 1745. 7. *Louiſa-Anne*, born *March* the 8th 1749. 8. *Frederic-William*, born the 13th of *May* 1750. And 9. *Carolina-Matilda*, born *July* the 11th 1751, ſome ſhort Time after his Deceaſe.

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FINIS.